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JOHN COTTON SMITH

PAPERS

Papers of John Cotton Smith while Lieutenant Governor, Acting Governor and Governor of the State of Connecticut

VOLUME VI

June 8, 1816—June 21, 1817

HARTFORD
THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1962

CONTENTS

	Page
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, June 8, 1816	1
Peter B. Gleason to John Cotton Smith, June 10, 1816	2
Jacob Linsley to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 17, 1816	3
Chauncey Whittelsey to John Cotton Smith, June 17, 1816	4
Enclosure	6
Enclosure	7
John B. Chittenden to John Cotton Smith, June 17, 1816	7
Chauncey Whittelsey to John Cotton Smith, June 20, 1816	8
John Cotton Smith to John B. Chittenden, June 27, 1816	11
John Cotton Smith to Jacob Linsley, June 27, 1816	12
John Cotton Smith to Selden Huntington, June 29, 1816	13
John Cotton Smith to Peter B. Gleason, June 29, 1816	14
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, June 29, 1816	14
John Cotton Smith to Chauncey Whittelsey, June 29, 1816	15
John Cotton Smith to Stephen F. Palmer, June 29, 1816	16
John Cotton Smith to Selden Cook, June 29, 1816	17
Petition from Durham July, 1816	17
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, July 6, 1816	20
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, July 6, 1816	22
Daniel Parker to [Thomas A.] Smith, July 6, 1816	23
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, July 8, 1816	23
Daniel Parker to John Cotton Smith, July 8, 1816	25
Nathan Merwin, 2nd to John Cotton Smith, July 8, 1816	26
Decius Humphreys to John Cotton Smith, July 8, 1816	26
Jacob Whiting to John Cotton Smith, July 9, 1816	27
Charles A. Stanley to John Cotton Smith, July 9, 1816	29
John Cotton Smith to Charles A. Stanley, July 18, 1816	29
Ebenezer Grosvenor to John Cotton Smith, July 9, 1816	30
John Brainerd to John Cotton Smith, July 9, 1816	31
David Deming to Stephen F. Palmer, July 10, 1816	31
John Cotton Smith to Nathan Merwin, July 13, 1816	32
John Cotton Smith to Jared Scarborough, July 13, 1816	32
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Grosvenor, July 13, 1816	33
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, July 13, 1816	34
John Cotton Smith to Decius Humphreys, July 13, 1816	34
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, July 15, 1816	35
Joseph Platts to John Cotton Smith, July 15, 1816	36
John Beach to John Cotton Smith, July 16, 1816	37
Chauncey Whittelsey to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 7, 1816	38

CONTENTS

	Page
Joseph Trumbull to John Cotton Smith, July 17, 1816	39
Calvin Barber to Moses Tryon, Jr., May 25, 1815 [sic]	39
Arnold P. Humphreys to Moses Tryon, Jr., April 10, 1816	40
Andrew T. Judson to John Cotton Smith, July 17, 1816	40
John Cotton Smith to Jacob Whiting, July 18, 1816	41
Stephen F. Palmer to John Cotton Smith, July 19, 1816	42
John Cotton Smith to Joseph Trumbull, July 22, 1816	43
John Cotton Smith to Joseph Platts, July 20, 1816	43
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, July 23, 1816	44
Samuel Woodruff and Others to John Cotton Smith, July 24, 1816	45
Thomas Mygatt to John Cotton Smith, July 25, 1816	46
Chauncey Whittelsey to John Cotton Smith, July 25, 1816	47
John Cotton Smith to Benjamin Baldwin, July 25, 1816	48
Oliver Hitchcock to John Cotton Smith, July 27, 1816	49
John Cotton Smith to Andrew T. Judson, July 27, 1816	50
John Cotton Smith to Chauncey Whittelsey, July 27, 1816	51
John Cotton Smith to Stephen F. Palmer, July 27, 1816	52
John Cotton Smith to David Deming, July 27, 1816	53
John Cotton Smith to James Monroe, July 28, 1816	54
Statement of Number of Men Returned, July 29, 1816	54
Representation from Middletown, July 31, 1816	56
Charles Hosmer to John Cotton Smith, July 31, 1816	57
Charles Hosmer to John Cotton Smith, July 31, 1816	57
Carlos G. Curtis to John Cotton Smith, Aug., 1816	58
John Darling to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 1, 1816	58
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 2, 1816	59
John Cotton Smith to Oliver Hitchcock, Aug. 3, 1816	60
John Cotton Smith to Arnold P. Humphreys, Aug., 1816	60
John Cotton Smith to Chauncey Whittelsey, Aug. 3, 1816	61
John Cotton Smith to Charles Hosmer, Aug. 3, 1816	62
Amariah Kibbee, Jr. to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 5, 1816	63
Jedidiah Buell, Jr. to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 5, 1816	64
John B. Chittenden to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 5, 1816	65
Stephen F. Palmer to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 5, 1816	66
Curtis Wilcox and Others to Benjamin Baldwin, Aug. 6, 1816	67
Arnold P. Humphreys to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 6, 1816	69
Charles Hosmer to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 7, 1816	70
David Deming to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 9, 1816	71
Benjamin Baldwin to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 9, 1816	71
John Cotton Smith to Amariah Kibbee, Jr., Aug. 10, 1816	72
John Cotton Smith to John Darling, Aug. 10, 1816	73
John Cotton Smith to John B. Chittenden, Aug. 10, 1816	73
Carlos G. Curtis to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 11, 1816	74
John Cotton Smith to Russel C. Abernethy, Aug. 12, 1816	75
Samuel Catlin to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 13, 1816	75

CONTENTS

	Page
John Cotton Smith to Carlos G. Curtis, Aug. 17, 1816	76
John Cotton Smith to David Deming, Aug. 15, 1816	77
Timothy Bishop to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 17, 1816	77
John Cotton Smith to Arnold P. Humphreys, Aug. 17, 1816	78
John Cotton Smith to Stephen F. Palmer, Aug. 17, 1816	79
Daniel M. Gregory to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 18, 1816	80
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, [Aug.] 19, 1816	80
John Cotton Smith to James Wadsworth, Aug. 19, 1816	81
Petition from Chauncey Ives and Others, Aug. 20, 1816	83
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Aug. 20, 1816	84
Certification of Amasa Cowles, Jr., Aug. 21, 1816	85
Ebenezer Grosvenor to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 22, 1816	85
George B. Holt to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 22, 1816	88
Enoch Foote to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 22, 1816	88
John Cotton Smith to John Hubbard, Aug. 22, 1816	89
David Deming to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 23, 1816	90
Theodore Pease to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 23, 1816	91
John Cotton Smith to Selden Huntington, Aug. 24, 1816	92
General Orders, Aug. 24, 1816	92
Certification of William S. Pierson, Aug. 25, 1816	93
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 26, 1816	94
Sylvester Bulkeley to George W. Jewett, Aug. 26, 1816	96
Chauncey Whittelsey to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 26, 1816	96
Richard Rand to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 26, 1816	97
Henry Summers to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 26, 1816	98
John Cotton Smith to Daniel Richardson, Aug. 26, 1816	99
Petition from Inhabitants of Griswold, Aug. 26, 1816	100
Moses Hayden to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 27, 1816	101
Decius Humphreys to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 27, 1816	102
David Smith to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 28, 1816	103
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 28, 1816	104
Elihu Moore to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 29, 1816	105
Remonstrance from Simsbury, Aug., 1816	105
Petition from Simsbury, Aug. 27, 1816	107
Peter B. Gleason to John Cotton Smith, Aug., 1816	108
Chauncey Whittelsey to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 30, 1816	109
Zephaniah Williams to John Cotton Smith, Aug. 30, 1816	111
John Cotton Smith to Stephen F. Palmer, Aug. 31, 1816	111
John Cotton Smith to W. W. Ellsworth, Aug. 31, 1816	112
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Aug. 31, 1816	112
John Cotton Smith to Chauncey Whittelsey, Aug. 31, 1816	113
John Cotton Smith to Theodore Pease, Aug. 31, 1816	114
John Cotton Smith to Henry Summers, Aug. 31, 1816	114
John Cotton Smith to Enoch Foote, [Aug.] 31, 1816	114
John Cotton Smith to David Deming, Aug. 31, 1816	115

CONTENTS

	Page
Joseph Camp to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 2, 1816	116
Herman Hine to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 2, 1816	117
Gilbert Twitchell and Others to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 2, 1816	117
Horace Candee and Others to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 2, 1816	119
John L. Tomlinson to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 5, 1816	120
Linius Smith to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 5, 1816	121
Certificates	122
Stephen F. Palmer to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 6, 1816	123
Petition from Roxbury, Sept. 6, 1816	124
John Cotton Smith to Gilbert Twitchell and Others, Sept. 7, 1816	126
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Sept. 6, 1816	127
John Cotton Smith to Chauncey Whittelsey, Sept. 7, 1816	128
John Cotton Smith to Horace Candee, Sept. 7, 1816	129
John Cotton Smith to Joseph Camp, Sept. 7, 1816	130
Phinehas Smith and Others to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 9, 1816	131
Joseph Talcott, Jr. to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 9, 1816	131
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 10, 1816	132
Association (Riflemen) in Weston, Sept. 11, 1816	132
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Grosvenor, Sept. 14, 1816	134
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Sept. 16, 1816	134
John Cotton Smith to Thomas N. Clark, Sept. 17, 1816	135
John Cotton Smith to Joseph Talcott, Jr., Sept. 16, 1816	135
John Cotton Smith to David Smith, Sept. 17, 1816	136
John Cotton Smith to Phinehas Smith and Others, Sept. 17, 1816	137
William Belden and Others to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 18, 1816	138
John Cotton Smith to Giles Ellsworth, Sept. 19, 1816	139
Petition from Southbury, Sept. 19, 1816	140
George W. Jewett to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 20, 1816	141
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 21, 1816	142
John Cotton Smith to John L. Tomlinson, Sept. 21, 1816	143
Linus Parmelee, Jr. to John Cotton Smith, Sept. 24, 1816	143
John Cotton Smith to Abel Hall, Sept. 4, 1816	145
Abel Hall to John Cotton Smith	146
John Cotton Smith to David Bird and Others, Sept. 25, 1816	146
John Cotton Smith to Linus Parmelee, Jr., Sept. 28, 1816	147
John Cotton Smith to William Belden and Others, Sept. 28, 1816	148
John Cotton Smith to Zephaniah Williams, Sept. 28, 1816	149
John Cotton Smith to Jared Scarborough, Sept. 28, 1816	149
John Cotton Smith to Chauncey Whittelsey, Sept. 28, 1816	150
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Sept. 28, 1816	151
John Cotton Smith to General Assembly, October, 1816	151
Moses Hayden to John Cotton Smith, Oct., 1816	155
Resolution, Oct., 1816	155
Remonstrance from Wilton, Oct. 3, 1816	156
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 4, 1816	158

CONTENTS

	Page
James Prince to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 5, 1816	159
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 7, 1816	160
Samuel H. Woodruff to Ebenezer Huntington, Oct. 8, 1816	161
Ebenezer Huntington to Samuel H. Woodruff, Oct. 10, 1816	162
Joshua Bulkeley to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 8, 1816	163
Petition from East Haddam, Millington Society, Oct. 8, 1816	163
Certificate by John Bestor, Oct. 10, 1816	167
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 10, 1816	167
Timothy Bishop to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 14, 1816	168
Michael P. Walker to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 14, 1816	170
General Orders, Oct. 14, 1816	170
Certificate of Silliman Godfrey, Oct. 14, 1816	171
Certificate of Hezekiah St. John, Oct. 14, 1816	171
Certificate of Samuel Smith, Oct. 15, 1816	172
Certificate of Joshua Dikeman, Oct. 15, 1816	172
Certificate of David Dauchy, Oct. 15, 1816	172
Certificate of Sturges Fanton, Oct. 16, 1816	172
Certificate of Holly Seymour, Oct. 15, 1816	173
Certificate of Edward Couch, Oct. 16, 1816	173
Certificate of John B. Meritt, Oct. 17, 1816	173
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 15, 1816	173
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 17, 1816	174
Judah P. Barnard to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 19, 1816	175
Gideon Higgins to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 22, 1816	176
Subscription to form Militia Company in Pomfret, Oct. 28, 1816	177
Jonathan May to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 9, 1816	178
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 26, 1816	179
Subscription for Southington Rifle Company, Oct. 28, 1816	180
Subscription for Southington Rifle Company	181
Subscription for Southington Rifle Company	182
Subscription for Southington Rifle Company	183
Subscription for Southington Rifle Company	183
Muster Roll of Company in Southington	184
Persons doing Military Duty in Berlin	186
Barack Smith and Others to John Cotton Smith, Oct. 30, 1816	188
Backus W. Birge to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 14, 1816	189
Roger Bailey to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 12, 1816	190
Daniel B. Brinsmade to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 13, 1816	191
General Orders, Nov. 14, 1816	192
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Nov. 16, 1816	193
John Cotton Smith to Isaac D. Bull, Nov. 16, 1816	194
Samuel C. Selden to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 18, 1816	195
Joseph Easton to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 19, 1816	196
John Bound to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 26, 1816	197
Abel McEwen to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 26, 1816	197

CONTENTS

Page
Thomas Day to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 26, 1816 198
Isaac D. Bull to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 22, 1816 198
Nathan Johnson to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 27, 1816 199
Joseph Trumbull to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 27, 1816 200
Bezaleel Pinneo to John Cotton Smith, Nov. 29, 1816 201
John Cotton Smith to Hezekiah Goddard, Nov. 30, 1816 . . . 202
John Cotton Smith to [Thomas Day], Nov. 30, 1816 . . . 202
John Cotton Smith to Major Isaac Bull, Dec. 2, 1816 . . . 203
State of Connecticut 204
John Cotton Smith to Chauncey Whittelsey, Dec. 2, 1816 . . . 204
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 2, 1816 . . . 205
John Cotton Smith to Samuel C. Selden, Dec. 3, 1816 206
Thomas Day to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 4, 1816 207
Joseph Eaton to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 5, 1816 208
Elisha Sterling to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 6, 1816 208
Eliphalet Holmes to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 6, 1816 209
John Davenport to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 14, 1816 210
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Dec. 14, 1816 . . 211
John Cotton Smith to Hezekiah Goddard, Dec. 22, 1816 . . . 212
John Cotton Smith to Elisha Colt, Dec. 19, 1816 213
John Cotton Smith to Elisha Colt, Dec. 21, 1816 215
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 22, 1816 . . . 215
Moses Tryon, Jr. to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 24, 1816 217
Elisha Colt to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 24, 1816 218
Samuel C. Selden to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 24, 1816 219
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Dec. 28, 1816 . . . 221
Sophos Staples to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 28, 1816 222
John Cotton Smith to Moses Tryon, Jr., Dec. 28, 1816 224
John Cotton Smith to Eliphalet Holmes, Dec. 28, 1816 224
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Dec. 30, 1816 . . . 225
Selden Cook and Lazarus Watrous to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 1, 1817 226
John Cotton Smith to Sophos Staples, Jan. 4, 1817 227
John Cotton Smith to Samuel C. Selden, Jan. 4, 1817 . . . 227
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Jan. 4, 1817 . . . 228
Eber Quy to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 5, 1817 229
Lemuel Ingals to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 7, 1817 230
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Jan. 11, 1817 . . . 231
Elizur Goodrich to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 11, 1817 232
Elizur Goodrich to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 15, 1817 232
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 16, 1817 . . . 233
Samuel C. Selden to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 21, 1817 234
William Perkins to John Cotton Smith, Feb. 5, 1817 236
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Jan. 25, 1817 . . 238
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 27, 1817 . . . 239

CONTENTS

Page

Thomas Day to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 28, 1817 239
David Deming to Ebenezer Huntington, Jan. 29, 1817 240
John Cotton Smith to Lemuel Ingals, Jan. 30, 1817 241
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Feb. 1, 1817 . . . 243
John Cotton Smith to Cook & Hale, Feb. 5, 1817 243
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Feb. 8, 1817 . . . 244
John Cotton Smith to Eliphalet Holmes, Feb. 8, 1817 245
John Cotton Smith to Samuel C. Selden, Feb. 8, 1817 246
Chauncey Whittelsey to John Cotton Smith, Feb. 12, 1817 . . . 247
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Feb. 17, 1817 . . . 248
Barnabas Bates to John Cotton Smith, Feb. 18, 1817 249
George W. Jewett to John Cotton Smith, Feb. 20, 1817 250
John Cotton Smith to Chauncey Whittelsey, Feb. 22, 1817 . . . 251
John Cotton Smith to William Perkins, Feb. 22, 1817 251
Sophos Staples to John Cotton Smith, Feb. 24, 1817 252
John Cotton Smith to Sophos Staples, March 1, 1817 254
Chauncey Whittelsey to John Cotton Smith, March 3, 1817 . . 255
William C. Atwater to John Cotton Smith, Feb. 27, 1817 . . . 256
Selden Huntington to John Cotton Smith, March 3, 1817 . . . 257
Russel C. Abernethy to John Cotton Smith, March 5, 1817 . . . 258
Jonathan May to John Cotton Smith, March 6, 1817 260
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, March 6, 1817 . . 261
John Cotton Smith to Russel C. Abernethy, March 8, 1817 . . 262
John Cotton Smith to Chauncey Whittelsey, March 8, 1817 . . 263
John Cotton Smith to William C. Atwater, March 8, 1817 . . 264
John Cotton Smith to Selden Huntington, March 8, 1817 . . . 265
Enoch Foote to John Cotton Smith, March 9, 1817 266
Hudson & Company to John Cotton Smith, March 11, 1817 . . 267
Russel C. Abernethy to John Cotton Smith, March 12, 1817 . . 268
Chauncey Whittelsey to John Cotton Smith, March 13, 1817 . . 269
John B. Bolles to John Cotton Smith, March 15, 1817 271
General Order 272
John Cotton Smith to Jonathan May, March 15, 1817 272
George Hoadly to John Cotton Smith, March 19, 1817 273
General Orders, Brigade of Riflemen, March 20, 1817 274
John Cotton Smith to Enoch Foote, March 22, 1817 275
John Cotton Smith to John B. Bolles, March 22, 1817 . . . 276
General Orders, March 22, 1817 276
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, March 22, 1817 . . 279
John Cotton Smith to George Hoadly, March 22, 1817 280
James Prince and Eli Adams to John Cotton Smith, March 22, 1817 281
Petition from Chatham, March 24, 1817 283
Enoch Foote to John Cotton Smith, March 24, 1817 285
Elizur Goodrich to John Cotton Smith, March 24, 1817 286
Lemuel G. Storrs to John Cotton Smith, March 25, 1817 . . . 286

CONTENTS

	Page
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, March 27, 1817	287
Noah B. Benedict to John Cotton Smith, March 27, 1817	288
Sophos Staples to John Cotton Smith, March 29, 1817	289
John B. Bolles to John Cotton Smith, March 31, 1817	291
Simeon Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 1, 1817	291
John Cotton Smith to Enoch Foote, Apr. 5, 1817	292
John Cotton Smith to James Prince, Apr. 5, 1817	293
John Cotton Smith to Ebenezer Huntington, Apr. 5, 1817	294
Writ of Election	295
Elihu Moore to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 8, 1817	296
Ebenezer Huntington to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 9, 1817	297
Hobart Estabrook and Eliphalet Holmes to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 9, 1817	297
John Cotton Smith to Simeon Huntington, Apr. 12, 1817	299
William Clark and Others to John Cotton Smith, Jan. 27, 1817	299
Certificate of Israel Graves, Apr. 15, 1817	300
John Cotton Smith to Simeon Huntington, Apr. 12, 1817	301
Silas St. John to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 14, 1817	303
Charles F. Potter to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 15, 1817	303
Daniel Phelps, Sr. to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 24, 1817	304
Horatio Smith to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 24, 1817	305
Joseph Camp to John Cotton Smith, Apr. 25, 1817	306
Selden Huntington to John Cotton Smith, May 6, 1817	308
John R. Bolles to John Cotton Smith, May 30, 1817	309
John Cotton Smith to John R. Bolles, June 7, 1817	310
Chester Grannis to John Cotton Smith, June 9, 1817	310
John Cotton Smith to Chester Grannis, June 21, 1817	311

INTRODUCTION

This is the sixth volume of the Smith Papers and Volume 30 of the *Collections* of The Connecticut Historical Society. Its publication is possible through the Public Act appropriating $1,000.00 annually to the Society for this purpose. Additional letters have been found which will require a supplementary volume, May 13, 1812 to May 6, 1817, to conclude this subject.

Previous volumes of the *Collections* may be purchased from The Connecticut Historical Society, 1 Elizabeth Street, Hartford 5, Connecticut, and a list of other available publications may be had upon application.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[9:116]

SHARON 8. June 1816 —

Dr Sir —

Enclosed you have orders for the formation of companies &c in the *third* & *second* brigades — I propose to set out for Vermont next week to be absent a fortnight, and have therefore concluded to furnish you with as much work as you will probably be able to accomplish against the time of my return — It has not appeared to me necessary to repeat in totidem verbis the instructions of the 30th ultimo — They are therefore only referred to particularly, & I doubt not will be scrupulously observed — You had made a slight mistake in the sketch you delivered me of the 2nd brigade — Durham should be assigned to the *seventh* regiment — and the whole of Guilford to the 10th — — conformably to the report of the board of officers & I mention the circumstance that you may correct your own minutes accordingly — — There is an application, you will remember from Pettipauge for the transmutation of one of their companies into a rifle-company — I have written Gen1 Whittelsey upon the subject but have given him no orders to accept the association — If when you are in that brigade you find such a company can be prudently & conveniently raised in the place proposed you may accept their association & issue an order for the choice of officers Col. Jewett is of opinion one infantry company will be sufficient for that parish & is therefore in favour of this rifle company It is necessary also to clothe you with discretionary authority relative to the formation of two rifle companies in Chatham as urged by Col. White — His proposal, as you know, is to raise these companies from the two militia companies in the west parish provided they cannot be annexed to the Middletown regiment — The case must therefore be decided before you apportion companies to that regiment — It is attended with difficulty & embarrassment — If they will be contented with one or even no rifle company I should prefer it rather than to weaken that regiment — but if you

perceive that the peace of that town & of the regiment requires the two to be formed you may adopt that course — Possibly however the individuals composing those companies will not unite in the application, in which event we shall of course be extricated from the dilemma — As to the project of annexing that part of Chatham to the regiment on this side of the river, it can by no means be admitted however desirous I am to comply with the wishes of Col. White —

You will probably recur to this letter for the purpose of refreshing your memory when you enter these two brigades, otherwise amidst a multiplicity of objects these points may be overlooked —

I shall wait with anxiety the issue of your operations in the 5th brigade — May you be directed & assisted by a kind Providence —

I am Dr Sir sincerely
your obt Sert

P. S. Remember the case of the two Sergeants at Plainfield — I have written Col. Gordon that the Subject is refered to your inquiry & decision — —

[Endorsed] To Ad. Genl Huntington 8. June 1816 —

PETER B. GLEASON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:117]

Hartford, 10th June 1816

sir,

I trouble your Excellency at this time to request permission to recruit such of the companies in the first Regiment of Cavalry, as are contemplated to be retained on the new establishment, under such restrictions as your Excellency shall prescribe. It will readily occur to your Excellency that the new Law augments the numbers to compose companies — and as there has been few enlistments the last eighteen months, our companies will not average more than about half the men allowed.

The third company, late under the command of Captain, now

Major E. L. Phelps, is destitute of a captain, owing to his promotion. I think it desirable the vacancy should be filled, tho' a commission will not issue till fall. I wish therefore, your Excellency would give an order to a proper officer to lead the company to the choice of a captain, and to fill vacancies

I am, sir, very respectfully
Your Excellency's obt servt
P. B. Gleason

His Excellency Govr Smith
Sharon

[Superscribed] His Excellency John Cotton Smith, Esq Sharon Ct

[Endorsed] Col P. B. Gleason 10. June 1816 recd here during my absence — answd 29. June 1816

JACOB LINSLEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:118]

Hon. John C. Smith Esqr.

Dear Sir, Having been afflicted for more than three years with lameness, & seeing but little (if any) prospect of recovery, having attended to the means prescribed by several noted Surgeons with little or no success, & considering my standing in the Militia I thought proper to apply for a discharge. I accordingly applied to Capt. Joel Ives in April last. Having been acquainted with my situation he hesitated not to give me a recommend to the Surgeon of the Regt in the words following, to wit, — "To Dr. Anson Foot Surgeon of the 27th Regt. Con. Militia, Sir, whereas Jacob Linsley a Serjt in the Compy under my command has for nearly three Years been afflicted with lameness which has almost entirely kept him from labor, & seeing little or no prospect of his recovery, I have thought it my duty to request of You a certificat for him to the Brig. Gen. of the 2nd Brig. for a discharge from military duty.
Yours Respectfully,

Joel Ives Capt. 2d Comp. 27th Reg.

Branford 17th of April 1816." — — — — — — —

I then went to the Surgeon who gave me a recommend to

Brig. Gen. H. Howe in the following words, Viz. — — — — — "To Hezekiah Howe Brigadier Gen. of the 2d Brigade Con. Militia

Dear Sir, Jacob Linsley a Serjt in the 2d Comp. 27th Regt has been attended with a lameness of the hip joint" for nearly three years which has disenabled him from labor & Military duty, & is probably incurable; from this view of his case I am of opinion he ought to be excused from Military duty, and hesitate not to recommend him to You for a Discharge. I am Your's respectfully

ANSON FOOT Surgeon 27th Regiment

GUILFORD April 17th 1816." — — — — — — — — —

Dr. Anson Foot was one of the surgeons to whom I applied Under these circumstances as the power of discharge is by Law vested in the Capt. General I thought proper to address Your Excellency on the subject, hoping that You will consider my case & let me know Your decision.

I am, Sir, with respect Your Obedient Servt.

JACOB LINSLEY

BRANFORD June 14th 1816

[Superscribed] Hon. JOHN C. SMITH Esqr Capt. General of the Ct. Ma. Sharon Ct. — — —

[Endorsed] Mr Jacob Linsley — June 1816 recd during my absence — answd 27th June

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:119]

MIDDLETOWN June 17th 1816

Dear Sir

your Excellys letters of the 6th & 8th inst were reced by me on Saturday. I have not as yet had time to make the necessary enquiries respecting one or two subjects, to enable me to give an opinion at present. I can only say that the application of the Litchfield Company to change the uniform, cannot in my opinion be granted with out injury to the Corps, I will give my reasons hereafter.

Mr Selden Cook 1 Lt 6 Co 7 Rgt of Cavalry & Mr Nathl C Smith Cornet of the same Compy have called on me, requesting me to give my opinion as to the policy of retaining that Company. They state that they have on their roll forty men including non commission officers who are all permanent inhabitants of the district in which that Compy is raised, that they have applications enough to fill the Company. they will present your Excely with the Roll & Number of applicants. Your Excelly already knows my opinion & the reasons on which that opinion is founded & I can only add the following facts to those which I have heretofore stated — ToWit That there is not any located Compy of Cavalry within a circuit of 18 Miles diameter, except the Company in this Town, which will undoubtedly be disbanded if the 6th is retained — that the Compy in this Town if disbanded will in all probability unite with the Horse Artillery — — Many of them were disposed to enlist into the H Artillery, but cannot — I am informed that Your Excelly has received information that the Co here will not join the H-Artillery if disbanded, — this information I am satisfied is wholly incorrect, I know that some of them are desirous of being disbanded, that they may join Capt Trowbridge's Co, & believe that the two junior officers & more than half the privates, would at once join that Compy Mr Shumway the first Lieut of the Compy here, is desirous of being discharged, & I think his reasons are such that Your Excely will discharge him — & if he is discharged, the Company will probably dwindle away, as he has been its main support for several years.

I *am informed* that Genl Deming has begun to change his opinion on this subject & to take the same view of it, which I have done

I am sure than I can persuade him if he is not already persuaded, that it is better that he should have one good Company of Horse Artillery in this place, rather than that he should have one poor Compy & Genl [left blank] of the Cavalry have one poor one also

I pray yr Excely to excuse the hasty manner [in] which I have been obliged to wriet — &

believe me with great respect
Your Excellencys most obed^{t}
Humble Servant
CH^{Y} WHITTELSEY

His Excellency
JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Genl C. Whittelsey 17. June 1816 relative to reduction of Cavalry — rec^{d} in my absence — Answ^{d} addressed to Mr Selcen Cook — 25th June 1816 — intra —

ENCLOSURE

[9:120]

Muster Roll of 6th Troop 7th Reg^{t} Cavelry

Serj^{t} —
Walter Saxton
Amos Clark
Elijah Clark
Hiram Markham — —
Cop^{l} —
Asa Mitchell 2^{d}
Ackey Strong
Henry Baily
Ira Savage
Music —
Dan B Niles
Ira Lucas — —
Privates —
Loren Cowdry
Samuel Brown
Martin Kellogg
Epraphas Bolls
Justus Bolls
Calvin Fuller
Russell Burdick
Richard M Smith
Simon Smith
Newel Herd
Harry Clark
Smith Griffeth
Morris J. McNairy
Ralph Post
Joshua Taylor
Judith L. Taylor
Seymour Hurlbut
Job Hurlbut
Eben Hall
David Clark 2^{d}
George Welch
Alpheus Hollister
Henry Strong
Joel Stocking
Silvester Penfield
Levi Mitchell
Alexander Sage
Ozias Cole

Roll of Applicants — —
Harry Roberts
Gilbert Bigelow

Warren Gates	Oliver Penfield
Horace Brown	Jonathan Penfield
Festus Cady	Chester Goodrich
Orin Hurlbut	John Strong — —

ENCLOSURE

[9:121]

Printed document of the Militia of the United States omitted in this publication.

JOHN B. CHITTENDEN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:122]

GUILFORD June 17th 1816

Sir

We have been informd that considerable progress has been made in re organizing the militia of this state. That the companies in the towns of Guilford, Branford, Wallingford & Durham will constiute one Regiment. We would state that in the first society in Guilford there are more men that bear arms than in any other society within the proposd limits there being at present one company of Light Infantry two battalion Comp & a part of a Compy of State troops We are therefore of opinion that a flank company can be furnished more conveniently from this society than from any other within the limits of the Regiment & as the law contemplates flank companies in every Reg of Infantry we would request your Excellency to accept the Light Infantry Company in Guilford now attachd to the 27th Regt as a Lt Inftry Co. in the Regiment about to be organized And we be leave to observe that in this request we express the wishes of the Company as manifisted by their vote

Should your Excellency however be of opinion that it would better subserve the interests of the State to form a company of Light Artillery in the Town (of which we have had some intimations) we are willing to exert ourselves to raise a company of that discription. We are with esteem your Excellencies most

obedient Servants — — In behalf of the Officers of the Lt, Inft^{y} Company

JN^{O} B CHITTENDEN Capt.

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr Sharon Ct Guilford June 17

[Endorsed] To Capt. J. B. Chittendend de Lt Infantry in Guilford — rec^{d} during my absence on a journey — answ^{d} 27th

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:123]

MIDDLETOWN June 20th 1816

Your Excellency's Letters of the 6 & 8th inst are before me. I have not yet obtained information upon which to make up an opinion as to the propriety of granting the Petition of the 10th C^{o} 2^{d} Reg^{t} I am opposed to the alteration of the Uniform as proposed by the Litchfield Comp^{y} — because alterations should be made only by the general consent of the Corps & because I think the alteration a bad one. The Hartford Comp^{y} are desirous of having a Green Uniform. Experience has shown that that Colour is unfit for actual service, that it looses all its Beauty in a short time there are the same objections against facings of that Colour.

If I can find time to attend to the business in the course of next Month, I propose calling the Captains of Companies together for the purpose of consulting on this & several other subjects, — but as our Sup^{r} Court is soon to sit I fear I shall not be able to attend to it till August.

I do not feel myself competent to give an an opinion respecting Rifles on which Yr Excellency can place much reliance. There is no subject connected with the Militia on which I have less information than with respect to Rifles & Riflemen & on referring to my Books, I find very little is to be acquired from them. My opinion must therefore be rather the result of abstract reasoning than experimental knowledge; & as experience is the only true guide on this subject, my opinion may be very incorrect.

The barrel of the Rifle should be in length at least ft 2— In 8

& not exceed 3 ft 4 I— Were I to direct, I should allow them from 2 ft 8 I to 3 ft — preferring 3 ft — —
Calibre — to carry an half ounce ball
Bayonet — length of Bayonets on United States muskets no of inches now out of my mind
Implements — Bulletmould — Wiper — Screw driver to each Rifle — Worm or Ballscew one to 10 men
Shot pouch, Powder horn or Flask

It is ascertained by Experiment that a Rifle 2 ft 8 In, long, will throw a ball as far & with as much accuracy, as a longer one — less length will not do — — — one of that length, is loaded easier, is lighter & more readily handled, than a longer one — the inference is that that is the proper length. The only objection that occurs to me is, that one so short might endanger the Troops using them. The Rifle is carried much at the Trail, & also leaning aslope on the arm — a careless man might let fall the muzzle so low as to endanger the next files, should the Rifle unexpectedly be discharged. This is however not often to be apprehended, & probably four inches added to the length would prevent the danger

The United States standard at present is — length 2 ft 9 I— — Caliber — half ounce, same with the new pistol Caliber, so that Cartridges for one fit the other — I see no objection to the Caliber — Bayonet— — It is a general opinion that a Rifle Bayonet should be long enough to make the Rifle & Bayonet equal to the Musket & Bayonet — I see no foundation for such an opinion. There is no use in having a musket barrel over 3 feet — — except as Infantry are called to charge or stand the Charge in Column or square. The present length is retained, I believe, only because it presents 3 Ranks of Bayonets to the Charge; for the purpose of charging in line a shorter musket is certainly preferable, as will easily by[sic] seen by a single experiment. I believe the French musket is not so long as the English by four Inches, but am not certain. Rifllemen are seldom called to make or stand a charge in Column or square — it appears to me therefore that if you give sufficient length to your rifle & Bayonet, so that a Rifle man on his knee can project his Bayonet far enough to

protect himself from a sabre cut of a Trooper, you have length enough — I should judge that a three feet barrel, with Bayonet of usual length would be sufficient for that purpose.

The Men may in my opinion use either a Powuder[sic] horn or flask, those terms all in practical use convertible

It will undoubtedly be necessary to give the Corps instructions as to exercise & evolutions. It will require much reflection & study to prepare those instructions in a concise & accurate manner. At present I feel myself quite incompetent even to advise on that subject. I hope some of the Field officers who shall be hereafter appointed will understand the subject better than I do — If however I should be disappointed in that respect, I will endeavour to make up a set of instructions to submit to Your Excellency.

I have ventured to indulge a hope that the state would purchase some Rifles & they might go into the hands of the Men, under proper bonds to be renewed annually —

I am induced to believe that an Arrangement may be made with the United States, to receive the proportion of Arms coming to this State under the Act of Congress in Rifles & that by adopting that Course we may obtain our proportion, as soon or sooner than any other State. I have consulted Mr Dana & he thinks an arrangement may be made without difficulty.

Artillery cannot be obtained in the same way, as it is not within the Act of Congress — — but I would suggest, whether it is not expedient to purchase of the United States, one or two pair of Iron Sixes — with Implements Harnesses, Caisson & Harnesses Complete for the Horse Artillery — selecting those that are new, have been well seasoned & made upon the most approved plan, as models for us hereafter — & that they should be charged in account to this State. If I had authority to make an attempt I should almost venture to promise success. The Mode proposed will be the Cheapest & best for obtaining Rifles & Guns, as the United States would supply the former under the Act of Congress & the latter at Contract prices —

June 21 Since I commenced my letter, I have seen Capt Wells of the Hartford Company & have conversed with several

of the Corps from other Companies — there is a strong disposition for a Grey Uniform & to adopt a light Jacht Hat for the Cap. The Uniform proposed would be preferable to the present, were it res nova — as it is I do not see how this disposition can be indulged, unless by having one Regiment of Greys & one of Blues.

I do not recollect what Uniform was prescribed for the Brigadier — I shall be much obliged to Your Excell^{y} for a Copy of the order directing the Uniform of the State Troops, if it can be made out without too much Trouble

Your Excellency has heretofore had the goodness to give me letters of introduction, which led me into Society, from which much gratification & instruction was derived. I propose to leave this for New York on Wednesday & shall be much obliged to Your Excellency for Letters to any of your accquaintance in New York, with whom you may think proper to make me accquainted.

Should Yr Excellency forward Letters, I wish them directed to me in New York to the Care of Messrs I & C. C. Griswold

I am with great respect
Yr Excellency's very obed^{t} Ser^{t}
& friend CH^{Y} WHITTELSEY

His Excellency
JOHN COTTON SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] Genl C. Whittelsey 20 & 21. June 1816 — answ^{d} in part — 29th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN B. CHITTENDEN

[9:124]

SHARON 27. June 1816 —

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant (which arrived during my absence on a journey) I would observe that under the resolution of the legislature passed at the last Session I have instructed the Adjutant General to retain *all* the *enlisted* flank companies within the limits of a proposed regiment and to post them according to their seniority — You do not state

whether the Light Infantry company to which you refer was raised by *enlistment* or whether it is a *located* company formed into a flank company by order of the colonel — If the former it will of course remain & do duty as such. If it is not thus constituted I can perceive no objection to raising a flank company by enlistment in Guilford, unless there are already two enlisted flank companies within the proposed limits of the regiment — The towns composing the regiment, as reported by the board of officers, are Guilford Branford North Haven & Wallingford — — (Durham is not included as you seem to suppose—) — I am not informed as yet whether there are any enlisted flank companies within those towns — but the report of the Adjutant General which may be shortly expected will undoubtedly ascertain the fact — In the mean time any further communication you may address to me upon this subject shall be duly noticed —

I am Sir your obt
hum. Sert

Capt. JNO B. CHITTENDEN —

P, S. The corps of Lt Artillery has its complement of companies which are formed into regiments & officered — I have been obliged to deny many applications for admission into that corps —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JACOB LINSLEY

[9:125]

SHARON 27. June 1816

Sir —

Your letter is received — As you have not forwarded any legal evidence in support of your application I have thought proper to address the enclosed letter to Genl Howe giving him authority to inquire into the facts and to afford you relief if he shall judge it expedient — You may therefore deliver the letter and lay your evidence before him —

I am Sir your obt Sert
Mr LINSLEY

SHARON 27. June 1816

Dr Sir

Mr Jacob Linsley a Sergeant in the 2nd Comp. 27th regiment — has applied to me by letter for a discharge from military duty on the ground of permanent bodily disability, but has forwarded no legal evidence in support of his application, — I have in reply directed him to lay his case before you and I do hereby authorize you to discharge him provided he proves to your satisfaction that he is permanently disabled — —

I am respectfully, Dr sir, your
obt & humble servant

Brig. Genl Howe —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SELDEN HUNTINGTON

[9:126]

The Adjutant General is authorized & instructed to issue the necessary orders for carrying into effect the arrangements prayed for in the within application, unless circumstances have intervened since the date thereof which may render a compliance impracticable or inconvenient — in which case he will report to me those circumstances — — Dated June 29th 1816 —

Sharon 29. June 1816

Sir —

Your letter of the 21t instant covering the application of the individuals composing the 6. Comp. 7th regt to be formed into a volunteer company of Lt Infantry — is received — — The application is forwarded to the Adjutant General with an order endorsed thereon in the words following —

See above —

I have adopted this course inasmuch as the adjutant General had orders under date of the 8th instant to form the companies & regiments in the 2nd Brigade & I am not yet informed what progress has been made under those orders — In any event it is essential to his arrangements that he be put in possession of your application —

I am Sir respectfully your
obt & hm Sert

Mr Selden Huntington —

[Endorsed] To Mr Selden Huntington — de petition for Lt. Infantry Co — 29. June 1816 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO PETER B. GLEASON

[9:127]

Sharon June 29. 1816 —

Dr Sir

Your letter of the 10th instant arrived here during my absence on a journey from which I am just returned —

The foregoing order, which can be easily seperated from this letter, is forwarded agreeably to your request —

Orders will be issued for recruiting the cavalry immediately after the contemplated reductions shall have been made — I now address a letter to General Palmer upon that subject and to save time I could wish you to communicate directly to him which of the troops in your regiment ought in your opinion to be reduced — Such an opinion he will undoubtedly require before he makes his report —

I am Sir respectfully your
obedient sert

Col. P. B. Gleason —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[9:128]

Sharon 29. June 1816

Dr Sir

I am just returned from my Northern tour and feel some disappointment at finding on my arrival no intelligence from you whatever — Orders for forming the companies in the 2nd & 3rd brigades were forwarded under date of the 8th instant — I hope they came safely to hand — You will easily imagine that my solicitude for you in your present undertaking is by no means inconsiderable — I am particularly desirous of ascertaining whether it will be practicable for you to complete all the arrangements in season for the Autumnal trainings — if not

you must have coadjutors — I however indulge the hope that you will be able to accomplish the business alone — a course which is to be altogther preferred — orders for the other brigades must of course be suspended until I hear from you —

The enclosed document from Haddam with the order thereon endorsed will sufficiently explain themselves — I trust no circumstances have happened to prevent the arrangement from taking effect — but I have thought it most prudent not to make the order unconditional —

I am Dr Sir very sincerely
your obt Srt

Genl HUNTINGTON —

P. S. What has Genl late Col. Williams done with the order we sent him from Hartford relative to the Horse-artillery? —

[Endorsed] To Adjt General 29th June 1816 enclosing the application from Haddam for a Lt Infantry company —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

[9:129]

SHARON 29. June 1816

Dr Sir

Allow me to introduce to you Chauncey Whittelsey Esqr of Middletown in this state, a distinguished member of the bar, and Brigadier General of our Rifle Corps — I have assured him you will take a real pleasure in making him acquainted with some of the wisest & best men of your city —

I am Dr Sir very sincerely and
affectionately your —

Mayor of New York

SHARON 29. June 1816

Dr Sir —

I am just returned from a journey into Vermont and lose no time in acknowledging the receipt of your several letters of the 17th & 21st inst — I can however take no other notice of their contents at present than to enclose a letter of introduction to the Mayor of N. York — His wife is my sister, and altho' a very

considerable difference has been lately created in our politics, I presume he will be gratified in shewing you every civility in his power & particularly in bringing to your acquaintance many in that city who are eminent in the professions of law and of the military art — I fear you may have left N. York before my letter arrives, but it was quite impossible to comply with your request at an earlier day —

I am Dr Sir your friend & obt Srt

Gen[l] Whittelsey

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO STEPHEN F. PALMER

[9:130]

Sharon 29. June 1816

Sir

In reducing the cavalry pursuant to the Act of Assembly I shall conform to the report of the board of Colonels of Cavalry made to me in February last — Two of the regiments which are to be retained to wit the first and seventh contain each of them one Supernumerary troop; and I must request you to report to me at as early a day as may be convenient which troop in each of those regiments ought in your opinion to be reduced — In the first regiment I imagine there will be little difficulty In the seventh some embarrassment may arise — I apprehend the question will be entirely between the troop at Chatham & the troop at Middletown — The former is extremely desirous of being retained — The latter is much wanted to fill up the company of Horse Artillery in Middletown —

Be pleased to examine the subject attentively and favour me with the result —

I am Sir respectfully your
obedient & humble servant

Gen[l] Palmer — —

P. S. Some valuable information may doubtless be obtained from Gen[l] Deming & Gen[l] Whittelsey relative to the 7th reg-

iment — Col. Gleason of Hartford will inform you as to the first — —

[Endorsed] To Gen[l] S. F. Palmer de reduction of Cavalry — 29. June 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SELDEN COOK

[9:131]

SHARON 29. June 1816

Sir —

The letter you brought here in my absence from Gen[l] Whittelsey has been attentively considered. I now write to Brigadier General Stephen F. Palmer of Ashford who commands the corps of Cavalry to inquire into the facts relative to the reduction to be made in the regiments of cavalry & particularly in the Seventh & to report to me his opinion at as early a day as may be convenient — It may be well for you to send him such information as you may deem important relative to this subject — I have advised him to consult both Gen[l] Deming and Gen[l] Whittelsey — —

I am Sir your obedient
& humble servant

M[r] SELDEN COOK

PETITION FROM DURHAM

[9:132]

We the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Durham, would respectfully represent to your Excellency, the following statement of facts relative to the situation of this town with respect to the performance of military duty under the new organization of the militia of Connecticut. It is proposed that the towns, Haddam, Saybrook, Killingworth and Durham, constitute one regiment. That Guilford, Branford, North-Haven and Wallingford compose another regiment. It is our request, and, considering the local situation of East Guilford a society

of Guilford and that of Durham, we think it would be reasonable and a mutual advantage to these places, that East Guilford be annexed to the first, and Durham to the last mentioned regiment. The distances from East Guilford to the different places of parade in the towns east of it are nearly as follows, to Saybrook, Old town 12 1/2, Westbrook 8, Pettepague 11 or 12 Chester 14. Hadam 15 or 16. Old Killingworth 4 1/2. North Killingworth 7. miles. The roads to the above mentioned places are generally good. As East Guilford is now located distance to the other socities of the town, Old town 5. North Guilford 11. North Bristol 6. Old Branford 13. North Branford 12 or 13. North Haven 20. Wallingford 22 miles. The distances from Durham to the towns with which it is to be connected are about 26 miles to Saybrook old town, 22 to Westbrook. 22 or 23. to Pettipague, 18 to Chester. 10 miles to Haddam, 17 or 18 to Old Killingworth, 12 to North Killingworth, The roads to some of these places are very bad. The distances to the several places, with which we desire Durham should be connected are nearly as follows, Old Guilford 15. North Guilford 9. North Bristol 8. North Haven 14. Wallingford 8 miles. Northford 8. North Branford 12. Old Branford 18 miles. The roads, usually, good. As it is to be presumed there will be no material alteration in the population of the several towns, which compose these two regiments, this new arrangement will be permanent. We consider it an unreasonable burthen that not only such as now belong to the militia; but also they, who may hereafter belong to them, should endure such an increased fatigue and expense. As East Guilford has ever been connected with the other societies of that large town, its inhabitants, notwithstanding the increased distances to the towns west of them, may be willing to remain as is proposed in the new arrangement. Col. Baldwin, also a respectible inhabitant of Guilford, may, rather, choose to retain the large company of E. Guilford in the regiment under his command, than exchange it for the very small company which at present exists in Durham. We, therefore, inhabitants of Durham, remonstrate against the proceedings of the Colonels of the several regiments and respectfully request your Excellency, whatever may be decided about

an exchange, that you would cause that Durham be assigned to the other regiment.

Officers and soldiers of the Militia Company

Jesse Atwell Commandt
Jeremiah Stephens Leut
Rich^{D} Hubbard Eq^{r}
Lewis Norton
Josiah Hull
Seth Tibbals
Stephen Hull
Nathaniel Bailey
Daniel Meeker
Peras Sturtavant
Benjamin Chalker
Charles White
Edmund Shelley
Russel Scranton
Joseph P Camp
Elias Camp 2nd
Lyman Butler
James Hinman 2d
Jehiel Swett
Ebeneze Graham
Thomas Barran
Peter Davis
Charles Thomson
Friend W Franses
Benjamin Lyn
Simeon Prat
Timothy Scranton
Noah Parmeley
Joseph Andres
Timothy Coe
Jabez Bailey
Joseph Smith J^{r}

Inhabitants of Durham

Guernsey Bates
James Wadsworth
Charles Coe
W G Chauncey
Denis Camp
Seth Seward,
Joseph Parsons
Jess Smith
John Butler
Sam^{L} Robinson
Asher Canfield
Manoah Camp
David Grannis Jr
Ichobod Camp
William S. Pierson
Joseph Tuttle
Nath W Chauncey
Titus Louland
Isaac Loveland
Ezra Loveland
Selden Stone
Richard Loveland
Lymon Bemus
Jabez Chalker
Jeremiah Chalker
Thomas Strong
Ab^{M} Scranton
John Johnson
John Tibbals
Charles Robinson
Daniel Hickcox
Daniel Hickcox J^{un}
Wadworth Wadworth

Inhabitants of the town

Asahel Strong	Jeremiah Butler
Asa Chamblain	Phinehas Parmele
James Hinman	Harvey Robinson
Ichobod Scranton	

There has been but few hours to circulate this paper, but so far as is known it is the universal wish of the inhabitants of Durham to be annexed to the western regiment. Should any answer be returned to this petition, please to direct it to Jesse Atwell the Captain of the Militia company in Durham.

[Superscribed] His Eccellency John C. Smith.

[Endorsed] Petition from Durham July 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[9:133]

To Major Genl Eben^r Huntington Adjutant General of the State of Connecticut Greeting —

The proposed first brigade of Militia will consist of the following regiments comprizing the towns and parishes Assigned to them respectively — towit —

First regiment — Hartford (excepting the second ecclesiastical society called West Division), East Hartford, East Windsor, Windsor* and that part of Farmington† which lies within the society of wintonbury — *Sixth* regiment, Wethersfield, Middletown, Glastenbury, and the Society of Worthington in Berlin — *Fourteenth* regiment — Farmington (excepting so much thereof as lies within the society of Wintonbury) Burlington, Bristol Southington Berlin (excepting the society of Worthington and the Second Society in Hartford called West Division — *Seventeenth* regiment, Suffield, Granby, Simsbury‡ that part of Windsor which lies within the Society of Turkey

* excepting such part thereof as lies within the society of Turkey Hills —

† & that part of Simsbury

‡ excepting so much there as lies within the Society of wintonbury —

Hills and Canton excepting such part thereof as formerly belonged to the town of New Hartford —

The proposed Fourth Brigade of militia will consist of the following regiments comprizing the towns and parishes assigned to them respectively — towit —

Fourth regiment Fairfield, Stratford, Trumbull and Huntington — *Ninth* regiment, Norwalk, Stamford and Greenwich — *Fifteenth* regiment, Danbury, Newtown, New Milford (excepting so much thereof as lies within the Society of New Preston) Brookfield, New Fairfield and Sherman — *Twenty fourth* regiment, Redding, Ridgefield, Weston, Wilton and New Canaan —

The proposed Sixth Brigade of Militia will consist of the following regiments comprizing the towns and parishes assigned to them respectively — towit —

Twelfth regiment, Southbury, Middlebury, Watertown, Woodbury, Bethlem, Roxbury, Washington and so much of the towns of New Milford & Kent as lie within the Society of New Preston —

Thirteenth regiment — Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Cornwall and Kent excepting so much thereof as lies within the Society of New Preston — *Sixteenth* regiment, Litchfield, Goshen, Torrington, Harwinton, Plymouth and Warren — *Twenty first* regiment Norfolk, Colebrook, Barkhamstead, Hartland, Winchester, New-Hartford together with that part of Canton which formerly belonged to New Hartford —

You are requested to organize the number of companies required by law in each of the regiments comprized within the several brigades above mentioned — In the discharge of this duty you will conform in all respects to the instructions given you under date of the 30th May last relative to the formation of companies &c in in the fifth brigade which it is deemed unnecessary here to repeat & will report your proceeding herein at as early a day as may be conveneint —

Dated at SHARON the 6th day of July AD 1816
J. C. SMITH Capt. Genl

N. B. I perceive you have noted on the report of the board of

officers in the 4th brigade that so much of Danbury as is included within the Society of Ridgebury be annexed to the 24th regiment — you are at liberty to do so if it shall be found expedient altho' the report as well as the foregoing order is silent on that point —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[9:133A]

SHARON 6. July 1816

Dear Sir —

Your letter under date of the 29th ultimo enclosing your proceedings in the 5th brigade arrived yesterday evening, I am gratified that you have been able to accomplish so much in so short a period — From this sample of your diligence I take occasion to hope that you will nearly complete the circuit in all this month — I lose no time therefore in forwarding an order for the three remaining brigades, trusting it will reach you at farthest by the day you mention —

Would it not be advisable for you to take such a route as to end your labour at Hartford, where we may meet for the purpose of preparing & issuing the General order? — We shall require the whole of August I fear to give the order the necessary circulation previous to the September trainings — Should an earlier interview be necessary let me know it — If the whole cannot be perfected in season, would it not be well to issue provisional orders to such of the brigades as shall have been organized directing them to conform to the new arrangement? — I merely suggest this thought, hoping at the same time that the measure will be unnecessary —

I infer from your letter altho' not mentioned that my communication of the 8th ultº covering orders for 2nd & 3rd brigades came duly to hand — I trust also mine of the 29th of the same month has reached you —

The request of the Artillery company in Griswold shall be noticed —

[Endorsed] Instructions to the Ad. General to form Companies &c in the 1st 4th & 6th Brigades 6th July 1816 —

DANIEL PARKER TO THOMAS A. SMITH

[9:134]

Copy

Adjt & Inspt Gens office
6th July 1816. —

Sir,

His Excy John Cotton Smith of Cont has represented to the War Dept that the personal attendance of Dr Shaw Hospl Surgeon who lately left this place under orders to report to you, is material as a witness in a case to be tried before the circuit court of the U. S. at Rutland in Vermont on the 2d of October next — You will grant to the Doctor a furlough for this purpose with orders to report to his station again as soon as the Court above referred to can dispense with his attendance as a witness — The Doctor will not be entitled to transportation under this authority. —

I have the honour to be
Sir
Very Respectfully
(sigd) D Parker
Adjt & Inspr Genl

Brigr Genl Smith
or Officer Commg
Dept No 9 —
St. Louis
Mo. T.

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:135]

My dear sir

Marlborough 6 July 1816

I have the pleasure to acknowledge your esteemed favour under date of the 29th of July which I suppose was intended for June — — — After receiving your excellency's favour of

the 8th of June covering orders for forming the second & third brigades, I immediately issued a circular & fixed on this & the next week to complete both brigades — — — — I attended at Stonington on Monday and returned on tuesday, at Norwich on wednesday and yesterday morning met here for this regiment — I shall be at Cheshire on Monday, at New Haven on tuesday, at Guilford on Wednesday, at Saybrook on thursday at N London on friday, which closes all the regiments in the 2d & 3d brigades — — — — I shall calculate to take the first fourth & sixth brigades in one circuit, taking the Sharon regt for the last, so as to have an interview with your excellency before my return home — —

I presume your excellency hath before this, received my communication of the 29th of June after my return from Windham & Tolland Counties, which I presume has been satisfactory, not only as it respects the formation of the 5th brigade, but also as affording to your excellency a knowledge of my having attended to the business with as much zeal as could have been reasonably expected — — — I find that I can arrange a regiment daily, but I must be industrious to do *four* a week & travel from place to place — — —

I believe that your excellency will be satisfied with my arrangement respecting Chatham when you see the report for the third brigade — — — Colo White is convinced much difficulty attends his proposition for a rifle company which was opposed by all the officers present here, & as he is retained, I suspect he will abandon his project — — — —

Colo Shepard made his election to retire, which as senior he claimed, thus Col White claimed & made his election to retire but I informed Colo White, that as Col Bulkley the junior Colo had resigned in May, & his resignation accepted by the lower house I must enter Colo White as Lt Colo Commdt of the new proposed regiment and state the facts to your excellency — — I believe retaining Colo White will give very general satisfaction to the officers & inhabitants both in Chatham *& Colchester* —

I should have written to your excellency acknowledging the receipt of orders for forming the second & third brigades, but

I wished to make an essay in forming the fifth brigade before I committed myself respecting the time necessary to accomplish this very unpleasant & hazardous undertaking — — I find much caution & prudence requisite, but from present experience, I flatter myself with succeeding without much excitement — — — Indeed scarcely any formation takes place, that does not appear *rather gratifying* to the officers than otherwise — — — — I shall calculate to send the result of my present circuit on my return & shall then be able to inform your excellency respecting the formation of a company in Haddam — — — — General Williams hath not yet completed the inlistment for forming a battalion of Horse Artillery, but the order is in execution — — — The two companies in Norwich &C have been together & a choice of officers returned to me, which I calculate to hand your excellency when I shall be at Sharon

I am very sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon Marlborough July 9th

[Endorsed] Adjt Genl 9. July 1816 recd 12th answd 13th

DANIEL PARKER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:136]

Adjt & Inspr Genl office
8th July 1816. — —

Sir,

Conformably to your Excys wishes as expressed in your letter of June 27th to the Secretary of State, an authority has been given for Doctor Shaw to repair to Vermont, a Copy of which I have the honour to enclose. —

With great respect & consideration
I have the honour to be
Your Excy's
Most Obt Serv
D. PARKER
A & I Genl

His Exc^{y}
JOHN C SMITH
Govr of Con^{t}
[Endorsed] Adjutant & Inspector Genl of U. States — covering authority for a furlough to Doct. Shaw — Answ. intra —

NATHAN MERWIN 2^{d} TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:137]

NORTH MILFORD July 8 1816
To His Excellency Governor Smith
Sir, Having prieviously received a Captains Commission & feeling desireous to receive General Orders especially those relative to recruiting I take this opportunity to inform your Excellency that it is Deeme,d necessary both by Officers and Soldiers that for the good of the Company recently establised in this place it is expedient that we receive orders as soon as possible or some inteligence from your Excellency respecting us

I am Sir respectfully
your most Obedient Servt
NATHAN MERWIN 2d

His Excellency
JOHN COTTON SMITH Captain General
Sharon
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Governor of Connecticut Sharon
[Endorsed] Capt. N. Merwin 2^{d} Rifle corps — 8. July 1816 — rec^{d} 12th answ^{d} 13th

DECIUS HUMPHREYS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:138]

CANTON July 8th 1816

To his Excellency
Sir

At the close of the late war the Company which I now have the honor of commanding was in numbers and ac-

quired Honors equal to any other of that Cota in the State but owing to the situation that left us in we have not been able to obtain an order from the Colonel for enlisting a single soldier since: and the company having been composed almost wholly of young sprightly ambitious single men and they many of them not settled in life have removed out of our limits untill we are reduced very low (about the number of 36*) And now if it please yo[ur] Excellency I should think it a great favo[ur] to have a permit from you to enlist the numbers of 18 or 20 to be taken not more than 4 from any one Com^p The Companies are now respectable and almost full as we have not enlisted any from them since some time previous to the close of the war There are 5 or 6 which were enlisted from the limits of 15th Reg^t and have continued to do duty with us by the permits of the legislature untill now and if the new arrangment would include and return them we should be much pleasd An accomodation with these requests would be greatfully acknowleged by your Excellencys obedient and humble Servant

DECIUS HUMPHREYS

*without the number from the 15 Reg^t

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Capt. Dec^s Humphreys of the Artillery — 8. July 1816 rec^d 12th answ^d 13th

JACOB WHITING TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:139]

NEW HAVEN July 9th 1816

His Excellency
John C. Smith Capt Genl,
sir,

I have held a Commission in the 8th Company 2^d Reg^t upwards of five years. I have had the command of that Company above three years. In the course of the last summer, I had the misfortune to have my knee fractured. This circumstance has rendered me incapable of [do]ing military duty & there is no probability that the fractured limb will ever be so far restored to soundness as to enable me again to attend to the duties of the office. I am

in the 46th year of my age — I must therefore request Your Excellency to discharge me from further military duty. I am, with great respect,

Your Excellency's Obt Sert
JACOB WHITING

NEW HAVEN July 9th 1816 —
This Certifies that the within named Jacob Whiting applied to me about the 1st of June 1815, for advice concerning an injury which he had received in his knee. He was unable to walk without assistance; and his knee, to my knowledge, remained quite lame f[or] many weeks. The injury which he received was, as I supposed, a fracture of a bone near the knee joint.

JONATHAN KNIGHT.

NEW HAVEN 9th July 1816 —
Sir,
I am Requested by Capt Jacob Whiting who is, & has been for seven years past one of the principal workmen in my manufactory, to State to Your Excellency what I know relative to his disability, refered to in the above certificate of Doct. Knight. His knee was injured in an altogether incidental & most extraordinary manner, in cross a fence — — It rendered him wholly incapable of doing any kind of business for three or four Months; & he was constantly lame for a Much longer period — — — He is now lame and complains of pains in the joint only at times; I think, however, it is very doubtfull whether his limb will ever be restored to perfect soundness.

With great respect I am Sir
Yr Very obdt Servt
ELI WHITNEY

Governor SMITH.
[Superscribed] To His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr
Sharon Connecticut
[Endorsed] Capt. Jacob Whiting — 9. July 1816 requesting a discharge — Recd 17th answd 18th

CHARLES A. STANLEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:140]

CHESHIRE July 9th 1816

To Captain General

Sir —

Some days since I lodged a complaint with Genl How against Capt Billious Cook & Lieut Russell Hall officers of the 3d Comy 2d Regt Cavallry for non performance of duty on the first Monday of May last past & other unofficer like conduct the circumstances of which you was made acquainted with though not I presume with the particulars having not opportunity of seeing Genl How since untill with in a few days he informed me that as part of sd Company had Volunteered for Horse artillery that he had no authority to call them to account for their misconduct but informed me that it was his opinion that the Capt General was the proper person to whom the complaint ought to be made, — — — if Genl How is correct in his opinion — I wish to be informed if not correct who the proper person is to whom the complaints should be made.

I have supposed untill last evening (from information from the Representative of this Town) that Capt Cook was discharg & that the afsd Lieut Hall was commissioned as Capt of sd Company — — — but the Adjutant General told me last evening he thought that the sd Cook was not discharged as yet. I should like to be informed the situation of the afsd officers — your answer to the foregoing request will oblige your humble Servant

CHAS A STANLEY

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHARLES A. STANLEY

[9:140A]

SHARON 18. July 1816

Sir

In reply to your letter I would observe that the Brigadier General of Artillery has the power of ordering a court martial for the trial of a commissioned officer of that corps —

I am not able to inform you whether a commission has issued to the person nominated as the successor of Capt. Cook in the

Horse Artillery. The Secretary's office is the place from which information of this kind is to be derived — A Communication was made to me upon the subject near the close of the last session of the Legislature, and it was referred to the committee appointed to receive military returns; but the result, if it ever came to my knowledge, is not within my recollection —

I am Sir with due respect &c

J. C. S — —

Mr Stanley — —

[Superscribed] John Cotton Smith Esqr Capt General Sharon Cheshire Cont July 9th

[Endorsed] Chs A. Stanley of Cheshire — 9. July — recd 17th answd 18th — intra —

EBENEZER GROSVENOR TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:141]

Pomfret 9th July 1816 — — —

To His Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq.

Sir,

The numbers of the 2d Company 2d Regt military Corps, being desirous of associating themselves and of being formed into Riflemen, have requested me, late Captain of that Company, to address you on that subject, and to desire some information, and direction, respecting the measures requisite to be by them taken, to effect the purpose aforesaid — We have been directed by the Adjutant General to make this application — The Company does not volunteer entire, but the number of those who formerly belonged to the company, and who decline associating associating for the formation of a Rifle Company, is very limited —

If no further measures be necessary to be taken by us, it is desired that some person may be appointed, for leading the associated men to a choice of their Officers — — It is desired, if it be allowable, that the time when this choice shall be made, should be left to the discretion of the person who may be designated to lead the men to a choice — —

It may be proper to remark, that the Adjutant General in the

late re-organization of the Militia Regiments, reduced the 2 Militia Companies of this Town to one, with a view to the formation of a Rifle Company here, and that to the number already associated, additions are daily made — — — — — — —

I am, very respectfully
Your Excellencys most ob^{t}
humble serv^{t}
EBEN^{R} GROSVENOR

[Superscribed] His Excellency, JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Sharon C^{t} Pomfret C^{t} 10. July.

[Endorsed] Capt. Eben^{r} Grosvenor de comp. Riflemen — 9. July 1816 rec^{d} 12th answ^{d} 13th

JOHN BRAINERD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:142]

HADDAM July 9th AD 1816

His Excellency John Cotten Smith Esq Capt General and Commander in Chief

Sir I would Recommend Doct^{r} Samuel Carter Surgeon of the 7th Reg^{t} who has performed the Duties of his Office for a great number of years with Punctuality for an Honourable Discharge from Military Duty

With much Esteem I am your Excellencys most Obedient & Humble Servt
JOHN BRAINERD 2nd Lieut
Co^{l} Comd^{t} 7th Regt
of Connecticut Militia

DAVID DEMING TO STEPHEN F. PALMER

[9:143]

COLCHESTER July 10th 1816

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 5th ins^{t} I have duly received & in compliance with your request shall most cheerfully communicate my opinion upon the subject suggested. Four of the Troops in the 7th Reg^{t} are located upon the west side of Connec^{t} river, the 6th & Junior Troop, which has never been full, is made up in

the town of Chatham, & within its present limits a complement of men can never be obtained. There has been a serious altercation between the two companies at Middletown, I am fearful that the Troop at that place could not be disbanded without exciting such a spirit of discontent as would produce much embarrassment & injury. Indeed under all circumstances I am fully of opinion that the reduction ought to fall upon the Troop at Chatham

I am Dr sir very respectfully yours
DAVID DEMING

General STEPHEN F PALMER

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO NATHAN MERWIN

[9:144]

SHARON 13. July 1816 —

Sir

I have received your letter of the 8th instant and am pleased at the ambition you discover to render the company under your command respectable — As soon as the arrangements now in a train for execution are completed the necessary orders will be issued relative to the recruiting service in the rifle-corps and other objects connected with its prosperity — These orders you will receive through your Brigadier General — The entire reorganization of our military system is a task of no ordinary magnitude — It will be accomplished as fast as the utmost industry and attention on my part will permit — —

I am Sir with real regard your
obt sert —

Capt. N. MERWIN 2nd

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JARED SCARBOROUGH

[9:145]

SHARON 13. July 1816 —

Dr Sir

The Company of Light Artillery in the town of Griswold have sent me a pressing request for at least one piece of

ordnance — Other companies probably are also destitute — Previously to my leaving Hartford it was proposed that you should prepare instructions for your guidance relative to the distribution of the field ordnance — but I believe the subject escaped further notice — I cannot think it at all necessary, unless for your own satisfaction, to furnish you with precise and formal orders upon this point — A fair and equitable allotment of the pieces to the several companies as far as our means will extend is all that can be expected, and is by me cheerfully referred to your sound direction — Regulations are already adopted in your department creating a due responsibility for the preservation of the guns & apparatus on the part of those entrusted with them and these cannot be too rigidly enforced —

I am Dr Sir very sincerely your
obt srt —

Col. Scarborough Q. M. Genl —

[Endorsed] Col. Scarborough Q. M. G. de distribution of ordnance — 13. July 1816 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER GROSVENOR

[9:146]

Sharon 13. July 1816

Sir

I learn with much satisfaction by your letter of the 9th instant that a company of Riflemen is about to be raised in Pomfret — As the members of the late 2nd comp. 2nd regt of state troops do not propose to offer their services *as a company,* but as individuals it will be requisite for them (together with such others as may associate with them for the purpose) to Subscribe an Application addressed to the Commander in chief requesting to be formed into a company of riflement pursuant to the Act — On receiving which, such orders will be immediately issued as shall be adapted to the case — The application may be forwarded by mail — In forming the association care must be taken not to include any men already enlisted into other select corps — & also not to reduce the infantry company below its

legal complement — I shall not insist upon the precise number of applicants necessary to form a company in the first instance — provided there is a rational prospect of filling it up in future without materially affecting the Infantry — It would however be desirable to present a full list if practicable — — With my particular thanks for your attention to this interesting subject,

I am Sir

Your very ob^{t} Ser^{t} —

Capt. EBEN^{R} GROSVENOR —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[9:147]

SHARON 13. July 1816 —

Dear Sir

I yesterday received your favour of the 9th instant from Marlborough, and am truly pleased at your progress — I am also vastly better pleased with your arrangement of the route through the remaining brigades than with my own — Let me hope notwithstanding the suggestion in my letter of the 6th that you will put in execution your plan of terminating the circuit at my house — The sole object of this letter is to tell you so If in consequence of the unlucky intimation in my last you have already made a different disposition let me at least have the pleasure of seeing you under my roof when you enter this regiment, the formation of which will probably require considerable attention —

I am Dr Sir sincerely your friend & o^{t} sr^{t}

Ad^{t} Genl HUNTINGTON —

[Endorsed] To Adj^{t} Genl Huntington — 13. July 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DECIUS HUMPHREYS

[9:148]

SHARON 13. July 1816 —

Sir —

Your letter of the 8th instant is received — As soon as the

arrangements now in a train for execution are completed, orders will be issued relative to the mode of recruiting the Artillery as well as the other select corps — Embarrassments may arise from giving special instructions to particular companies — A general rule will be obviously the most proper — — — —

The individuals who enlisted from the 15th regiment into the late 4th compy of Artillery in the military corps, and who have continued to do duty in the same company since its admission into the militia you are hereby permitted to retain at their request & to incorporate them with the said company now under your command — —

I am Sir your obt sert
J — C. S — — —

Capt. Decius Humphreys —

1425162

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:149]

Norwich 15th July 1816

My dear sir

On the 13th I returned from arranging the companies in the second brigade, & this day have been employed in issuing circulars to the 1st 4th & 6th brigades which were recd during my absence — — — Not having flattered myself with the idea of meeting your Excellency at any point this side of Sharon, I had calculated & made arrangements to be at Sharon the 9th of August to form that regiment which will close the twenty four regiments of Infantry —

When I arrive at Sharon I shall *endeavour* to have a report of the formations ready to lay before your excellency & I presume your Excellency will deem it expedient to vary the formation in some instances —

I think Woodbridge ought to be set to the second regiment — — Durham to the 10th & East Guilford to the 7th but as the remarks I wish to make would exceed the limits of a letter — permit me to say that the form of the General Order to be

issued may be drawn, having a place for inserting the formation of the Infantry — —

I hope your excellency will direct the autumnal inspections to be by battalion; & all in formation of new flank companies to be directed in their uniform

I will endeavour if possible to have the formations in the 2d & 3d brigades precede my arrival — — I am anxious to close this very unpleasant but necessary business as soon as possible, but I find the utmost prudence patience & caution necessary to avoid excitement — — —

I flatter myself with accomplishing the object without stirring many angry passions — — I believe when I see you & explain the business, your excellency will be satisfied that every thing has been done by me which could have been done, & with as much promptitude as the business would permit — —

Next Monday I leave this place for Hartford, take a regt at Hartford on tuesday, one at Wethersfield Rocky Hill on Wednesday, one at Farmington on Thursday, one at Canton on Friday, one at Winstead on Monday following, one at Litchfield on tuesday, one at Woodbury on Wednesday the 31t — — one at Bridgeport on friday the 2d of August, one at Stamford on the monday following one at Wilson on tuesday, one at Newtown on Wednesday, & the one at Sharon on friday the ninth —

I presume your excellency has before this recd my letter from Marlborough —

I am dear sir with much respect
& esteem, yours sincerely — — —
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] Adjt General — 15. July 1816 recd 20th

JOSEPH PLATTS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:150]

SAYBROOK July 15. 1816 — — — —

Dear Sir,

On my arrival at Saybrook I found the 10th Co. had in-

formed the Adjt. Gen. that they expected information from your Excellency relative to their application to be made a Rifle Co. and had requested in Case of failure to be set off part of them to the Co. in Westbrook and the remainder to the Co. in Chester — — The Adjt. Gen. agreed to wait till the fate of said application was known and if denied to grant their request — — From the information which I have obtained I think the Adjt. Gen. had not received your Excellencies Order when at Saybrook. There is now an attempt in Pettipague to raise a Rifle Co. in the Eastern part thereof in opposition to the application of the 10th Co. — — What we request is that before your Excellency denies us he would gives us an opportunity to be heard and to produce our Evidence if he thinks any more necessary on our part as we are confident that we are entitled to what we ask for — — — — — —

We hope and trust that your Excellency will be particular to pay attention to one thing relative to the new application whenever it is presented and that is the welfare of the 8th Co. for if this new application is granted that Co. might as well be disbanded this I think we can satisfactorily show if we have opportunity

In haste
Your Excy. most Obt. &c.
JOSEPH PLATTS

His Excellency
JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon Say-Brook July 15

[Endorsed] Jos. Platts Esqr 15. July 1816 rec^d & answ^d 20th

JOHN BEACH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:151]

John Cotton Smith Esquire
Sir

Being advised to make Application to your Excellency for a discharge from Military duty I do hereby make application for the same — — the reasons why are these for more than a year

I have not enjoyed a good state of health Being subject to a scorfulous tumour and a pain in my breast which at times makes impracticable if not altogether impossible for me to do my duty as an Officer or even to attend to my own business

I am your humble Servt
JOHN BEACH Major of the late
2nd Regiment
NORTH HAVEN July 16th 1816

[Superscribed] JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr Captain General in and over the State of Connecticut Sharon Litchfield County State of Connecticut

[Endorsed] Major Beach of 2d Regt application for a discharge — recd 19. July 1816 N. B. Wait until the report of the Ad. Genl is recd —

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:152]

[In Court] MIDDLETOWN Augt 7 1816

Sir

A number of person, Sixty in the whole, have associated for the purpose of forming a Rifle Company in the first parish in Chatham, & they wish me to forward the subscription papers to you. As the papers are much worn & some what larger than can be conveniently enclosed in a Letter, I have retained them. Colo White informs me that he has given yr Excelly information respecting the situation of that Parish. & that the Adjutant General is auquanted[sic] with any fact relating to the militia there — From what information I possess, I presume a very respectable Company may be formed from the Persons who have signed the subscription

I am with respect Your Excellencys
most Obed Sert
CHY WHITTELSEY

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Genl Whittelsey de Rifle Comp. in Chatham

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:153]

My Dear Sir

Capt Oliver Filley of the 8th Compy. 18 Regt has requested that I would enclose these papers to Your Excellency —

His object is to induce Your Excellency to delegate power to Genl Moses Tryon Jr to dismiss him for the reasons mentioned within — — —

Genl Tryon it seems had promised Capt Filley to discharge him, but in conversation with Your Excellency last spring found he had not the power — —

Accept the respects & best wishes of

HARTFORD July 17. 1816 — — Your obedt servant

JOS. TRUMBULL

I have recd a letter from Genl Huntington to which I will attend — — — — —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH *Sharon*

[Endorsed] Col. Trumbull enclosing Capt. Filley's papers —

CALVIN BARBER TO MOSES TRYON, JR.

[9:154]

SIMSBURY May 25th 1815 [sic]

Genl Moses Tryon Junr

Sir.

Capt. Oliver Filley — being about to remove — with his family in to the Town of windsor — which will render it very inconvenient to perform Militia duty in the company which he now commands, and having served as Captain, for several years — to the accepance of his superior officers, and to the General satisfaction of All und[sic] his command — — — I do therefor recommend him to your consideration for a dismission from Military duty in said company — — — —

Yours with Esteem

C. BARBER Lt Col. Comdt 18th Regt

[Superscribed] Genl MOSES TRYON JUNr Hartford

[Endorsed] Colo Barber Capt A Filley

ARNOLD P. HUMPHREYS TO MOSES TRYON, JR.

[9:155]

CANTON April 10th 1816

Genl Moses Tryon Jr

Sir Capt. Oliver Filley has served as Capt. in the 18th Regt. about four years and has done honor to him self as an officer. and on account of his long and faithful services & having removed out of the limits of said Regt. in my opinion ought to be honoably discharged from Military duty and would recommend him to you for your consideration.

ARNOLD P HUMPHREYS — —

Lieut. Col. Comdt 18th Regt.
Connecticut Militia

[Endorsed] Colo Humphreys recommend Cap Oliv Filley

ANDREW T. JUDSON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:156]

CANTERBURY July 17. 1816.

His Excely Govr Smith Capt Genl

Sir, When the Adgt Genl came within the 5th Regt as located under the reorganisation of the militia, for the purpose of giving bounds to the respective Companies, constituting the same, he found the officers assembled to give such information as was required. An unusual share of unanimity prevailed among them and they were highly gratified with the prompt, able, and judicious manner in which he gave to the respective Companies their equal *rights.* The situation of the militia in this town, and the request of the officers, are the cause of my presenting this communication. Under the old establishment there were in Canterbury two Militia Companies (one in each society) and a Light Infantry Co raised by enlistment. Four years since the militia Co in the 1t Society & the Light Infy had become so much reduced in numbers that the members of both were indued to apply to the Genl Assembly for relief — In that application the old Light Infy resighned their charter and by a resolve, *that* and the militia Co. in the first society were abolished

and the persons subject, living within said 1t society were constituted a Light Infy Co, located with the lines of the Society embracing *All* within its limits without the power of enlistment. It is now thought best by the Adgt Gl and all concerned that *One* Militia Co should spread over *both* Societies in Canterbury and that a new Lightt Infy Co should be raised by enlistment agreeably to the provisions of the late law of reorganisation, the enlistments to be confined to the towns of Canterbury, Plainfield Sterling and South Society of Killingly which are to constitute one Battallion. And that the present Officers of the Light Infantry Co should be established as the Officers of the Company to be thus raised, and have orders for their enlistment as soon as convenient for Your Excellency.

The Adjt Genl will agree with me that the present Commander of the Light Infy is an experienced Officer and would shortly raise by enlistment a respectable Company.

If the state of the reorganisation would permit the officers would feel themselves under the greatest obligations if Your Excellency would condescend to adopt this course and forward their order for the enlistment by the 1st of August so that their Company may be raised by the fall Review.

I have the honor to
His Excellency's
most obedient sert
ANDREW T. JUDSON Majr 21st
Regt

[Superscribed] His Excelcy JOHN C. SMITH Esqr Sharon Con
Pr Adgt Genl Con

[Endorsed] Major A. T. Judson de Lt Infy Compy Canterbury
— Recd 26th answd 27th July 1816 also 17th Augt

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JACOB WHITING

[9:157]

Brigadier General Hezekiah Howe

Sir —

Capt. Jacob Whiting of the 2nd regiment of Infantry

has applied to me for a discharge from his office and on grounds which appear to be satisfactory — but his application is not accompanied by the recommendation of the Commandant of the regiment, a requisite which ought not to be dispensed with in ordinary cases — You are hereby authorized to receive his application supported by the proper vouchers & decide upon it accordingly — Should Capt. Whiting have been assigned to the command of a company under the new arrangement you will, in the event of discharging him, issue an order to fill the vacancy as soon as the number of the company shall be announced in general orders and you will do the like in the cases which have been already referred to your division —

Dated the 18th day of July AD 1816 —
J. C. S — —
Capt. Genl

Sir —

You will deliver the foregoing order to Genl Howe — I trust it will meet the desire expressed in your letter of the 8th instant —

I am Sir your obt & hm. srt

Capt. Whiting

STEPHEN F. PALMER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[9:158]

Ashford 19 July 1816

Sir

In complyance with your Excellencys request I beg leave to report.

In respect to the Troop in the first Regiment of Cavalry that is to be disbanded the the first is unquestionably the one in every point of view that ought to be disbanded

In respect to the Troop in the 7th Regiment that would be attended with the least inconvenience in disbanding. I must acknowledge I an[sic] not enough personally ackuainted with to be a competant judge. As your Excellency referred me to Gen-

eral Demming upon the subject I have taken the liberty to inclose the line I received from him upon that subject.

I am Sir respectfully your obedient
and humble Servant
STEPHEN F PALMER

Capt General JOHN C SMITH

P S As the uniform of the Brigade officers of Cavalry has not ben established in this state your Excellencies particular Discription is Solicited

By — — S F PALMER

[Superscribed] Capt General JOHN C SMITH Sharon Ct

[Endorsed] Genl S. F. Palmer's Report & letter 19. July 1816 recd 26th answd 27th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL

[9:159]

22. July 1816

Dr Sir

In reply to your letter enclosing Capt. Filley's papers, I would observe that the Adjutant Genl will enter upon the formation of companies in the first brigade the present week — It is very possible the Captain may not be assigned to a command under the new arrangement — in which event his object will be answered — It will be attended with embarrassment to issue the order he requests at the present moment as it is uncertain on whom the command of the brigade will devolve there being two Brigadiers within its proposed limits — A General order will be issued relative to dismission as soon as the organization is completed —

I am Dr Sir sincerely yours

Col. TRUMBULL —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOSEPH PLATTS

[9:160]

July 20. 1816

Sir

Your letter is received — The new application to which you refer, if presented will be maturely considered — The Adjutant

General must have received my instructions respecting the formation of the Rifle company (a copy of which was read to you at my house) inasmuch *as those instructions accompanied* the orders for the organization of the regiments in the second brigade — He has unfortunately overlooked them amidst a multiplicity of other objects — a circumstance which I cannot but regret —

I am Sir respectfully your
obe^{t} S^{t}

Jos. PLATTS Esqr

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:1]

My dear sir HARTFORD 23^{d} July 1816

On the 16th I wrote your excellency & acknowledged yours of the 9th & I have now to acknowledge the rec^{t} of the duplicate handed me by Col^{o} Trumbull on my arrival last even^{g} — — — — —

Having many remarks to make on the formation of the different regiments which must be deferred for a personal interview I had doubted the expediency of forwarding by mail the reports on any of them — — but believing your excellency will be rather gratified in receiving, than my reserving them till the close — — — I forward reports of the 2^{d} & third brigades, by which your excellency may discover that some alterations in the formation of regiments will be submitted for your ulterior determination — — — — I have received, (to present for your determination), an application from a large number of the inhabitants in Pomfret for an alteration of my arrangement in that town which I shall keep with me till the 9th of August —

I still flatter myself with the idea, that the arrangements will not create much if any political excitement — my best respects attend you

sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency
Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon Military returns Hartford 23d July 1816 Eben: Huntington Adjt Genl

[Endorsed] Ad. Genl Report 2nd 3rd brigades — recd 26. July 1816

SAMUEL WOODRUFF AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:2]

GRANBY July 24th 1816

His Excellency Governor Smith

Sir,

The bearer Capt. Walter Thrall of this Town will present to your Excellency the late location of the Regiments in this section of the State — — By which the Company now under his command is divided in such a manner (arising from their local situation) as will render the service of a considerable part of them much more laborious and unpleasant than heretofore — — —

They and their family connections feel a considerable interest in this subject — — Capt. Thrall will lay before your Excellency the particulars, and we beg your Excellency to be assured that the fullest reliance is to be placed upon the representations which he will make — — —

We are, Sir, with sentiments of the highest
respect your Excellency's most obedient
humble Servants
SAMUEL WOODRUFF
P C ROBBINS
JOSEPH CORNISH
ELIPHALET BURK
ARNOLD P HUMPHREYS Lieut Colo
Comdt 18th Regt.

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governor SMITH Sharon

THOMAS MYGATT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:3]

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith Esqr
Commander in chief of the Militia of the State of
Connecticut — —

Sir — At the age of fifteen years & six months I voluntarily entered the ranks of the Militia of this State & have faithfully seved in different grades to the present time without incurring a fine or censure have seved as a Lieutenant in the 2^d Comp^y in the 6th Reg^t from the 16th of June 1813 — am now about forty two years of age am a Mechanic in moderate circumstance with nine children the eldest has just entered the ranks — that the State will not be without a Soldier from my family if I should be discharged — could I have remained in the Company where I have usually done duty, would have endevoured to have faitfully served a few years longer, but a new arangement in the location of the Companies will in future compell me to travel out of the 1st Society where I reside into the 2^d five miles to do military duty — a circumstance altogether (in my opinion) incompatible with my age, & the duty I owe to myself & family I have therefore respectfully to request of your Excellency a discharge from further military service — — I am Sir with great respect —
your Excellencys obedient Servant —

THO^S MYGATT

WETHERSFIELD July 25th 1816 — —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr
Sharon

[Endorsed] Thomas Mygatt of Weathersfield — a Lieutenant — Application for a discharge — rec^d 9. Aug. 1816 — This officer is omitted in the arrangement it is said &c

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:4]

MIDDLETOWN July 25th 1816

Sir

I have directed the Captains of the Companies composing the Rifle Brigade to meet on the 20th of August at this place for the purpose in part of obtaining information & partly to give some instructions which may be expedient.

I should be glad to be able at that time to communicate to them, your Excellency's directions, — as to — — —

1 Arms —length — caliber &c of Rifles — —

2 Rules of Exercise

3dly & whether it would be agreeable to your Excellency to allow one of the Regiments to adopt a new Uniform provided it can be done without inconvenience to any Company.

Duane's Hand Book for Riflemen is the only Company Book, fited for the use of Rifle men which is in print in this Country with Your Excelly permission I shall recommend that Book, to be used, untill a better can be obtained. I have a Rifle made for the United States, 2.9 — barrel — ½ oz Caliber — which I intend forwarding to yr Excelly by the first opportunity I am as well pleased with the Model as with any that I have seen — I am informed that the English Rifle men use Rifles that are much shorter — about 23 inches barrel — but I believe they also carry a cut & thrust sword.

yr Excelly gave me a statement of Eleven Comps which had been organized — —

1 Middletown — Capt Storrs

2 Colchester " Fox
4 Co 2d Rgt

3 Meriden " Coles
6 Co 2d Rgt

4 North Milford " Merwin

5 Litchfield " Buel
4 Co 1 Rgt

6 Huntington &c " Edwards

7 Plainfield " Eaton
3 C° 2 Rgt
8 Hartford " Wells
9 East Windsor " Wolcott
9 C° 2d Rgt
10 Coventry &c " Talcott
8 C° 2d Rgt
11 Marlborough " Buel
10 C° 2d Rgt

If any other Company has been since organized, I beg your Excelly Will send me the Rendezvous & name of Captain — It will be a convenience to me to have the Companies as they are formed reported to me with the residence of the officers, if Yr Excelly should think proper to give such directions.

I am with much respect
Your Excellys most
Obedt Sert
CHY WHITTELSEY

As there are are no Colonels appointed will it be correct for me to give Certificates to such Captains & Subalters as are in Uniform & have done duty? —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Cont

[Endorsed] Genl Whittelsey — 25. July 1816 recd & answd 3. Aug.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO BENJAMIN BALDWIN

[10:5]

SHARON 25. July 1816

Sir —

The foregoing is the copy of a representation I have just received from the town of Durham — Its object is Sufficiently apparent without further explanation — The Adjutant General writes me that in his opinion which seems to have been formed in some measure on the spot, the arrangement proposed by the petitioners ought to take place — I shall be gratified to learn whether you concur in the same opinion from a dispassionate

view of the subject as it regards the general interests of the militia — The Adjutant Gen[l] will be here on the 9th of next month to make his final report — and by the 12th of the same month at farthest the General order embracing the new organization ought to be issued — If you have serious objections to the contemplated change, I will thank you to communicate them by the time last mentioned — It is my sincere desire to render the system as unexceptionable as possible — —

I am respectfully Sir your
ob[t] Sr[t]

N. B. I ought perhaps to mention that from the returns in my possession it appears that the change proposed by the People of Durham will make the two regiments more equal in point of numbers —

Col. Baldwin

[Endorsed] Letter to Col. Baldwin

OLIVER HITCHCOCK TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:6]

[Bur]lington July 27th 1816 —

His excellency John [C.] Smith —

I have since I left Sharon taken some paines to find a person to purchase my Farm, and have been successfull — A Gentleman living in Town and owning a farm contiguous to mine has offered to purchase on the following terms (viz) 1st the sum divided into three payments, and 2nd a mortgage given for the security of the same. The 1st payment to become due May 1st 1823 the 2nd May 1st 1825 and the third May 1st 1827 with in[t] annally [sic] — Providing notes given on the above conditions will be acceptable for land in Ver[t] please to write the lowest price for the Brownal lot and Dyer farm. I have re[d] no letter. that an answer to this may be speedily return[d] is my request — it being necessary that I know before I go to Ver[t] and I have business there which in a short time will demand my immediate attention — — — —

Respectfully yours — Oliver Hitchcock

[Superscribed] His excellency JOHN C. SMITH — Sharon Conn^{t}
— — Burlington Ct July 30th
[Endorsed] Mr O. Hitchcock de Dyer farm. rec^{d} & answ^{d} 27th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ANDREW T. JUDSON

[10:7]

SHARON 27th July 1816

Dr Sir

Your letter is received — The adjutant General has not yet reported to me definitively the organization of the 5th brigade There are facts as he states still to be communicated — He will be here on the 9th of next month to make his final report from all the brigades when I shall have an opportunity of conferring with him upon the Subject of your application — It will afford me sensible pleasure to comply with your request as far as may be practicable — I ought however to observe that the Commander in chief has not the power *to assign* officers to companies newly raised by enlistment — The associates have in all cases the right of chosing their own officers —

I am respectfully Dr Sir your
ob^{t} Ser. J. C. S — —

Major JUDSON —
[on reverse of this letter]

Copy of another letter —

17. Aug. 1816

Dr Sir —

On the final report of the Ad. Genl I have established the flank company in Canterbury & assigned the officers agreeably to your request — As will appear by the Genl order issued on the 15th instant — No new enlistment is necessary — The present officers & men constitute the company — The recruiting service for flank companies generally is provided for in the order —

I am &c —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

[10:8]

SHARON 27. July 1816

Dr Sir —

The uniform prescribed at first for the Brigd Genl of the state troops was that of Brigadiers of the militia — By a subsequent order made at the request of Genl Terry, the following alterations were adopted — towit —

The Brigd Genl will wear no feather &c — —

(reciting the order of 4. June 1814 —)

You will suggest any modifications that occur to you as proper for the Brigadier of the Riflemen & his staff — If you have found a more decided opinion than heretofore expressed as to the dimensions of the Rifle be pleased to communicate it as well as any other matters regarding the interests of the corps — Two additional companies are in the act of forming one at Pomfret & one at Pettipauge which will make the whole number *fourteen* — I regret that the inchoate state of the Brigade will not allow me to include their organization in the Genl order which will be issued in a very few days embracing the new arrangement of Infantry, Artillery & cavalry —

Under these circumstances I think there must be an order directing the Riflemen to meet for exercise &c. by companies the number of days required by law in the month of September next & to use their guns instead of rifles & such uniform as they now have until further orders — clothing the officers chosen or which may be chosen but not commissioned, with authority to act until the rising of the next Genl Assembly & authorizing for the present recruits from any located company of infantry in the vicinity *whose number exceeds the legal complement* still however preserving that complement Also intimating that more definitive orders will be issued at no distant day relative to implements & uniform, the recruiting service and the rules of discipline — As these objects are merely provisional they may be made the subject of a *Brigade order,* which I wish you ac-

cordingly to issue predicating it particularly upon instructions received from me — & furnishting the commanding officer of each company with a copy You may add if you please *"A word of exhortation"*. Should there be any other items which appear to you necessary to be inserted, you probably have time to suggest them to me & take further instructions —

I have called upon the Brig[d] Gen[l] of Cavalry for a report respecting the necessary reductions in that corps — He reports to me the very decided opinion of Gen[l] Deming that the Chatham troop ought to be reduced and the one at Middletown retained — The combined opinion of the commanding officers of *both* corps on this point must necessarily possess very great weight— It remains I imagine that we amalgamate if practicable the Chatham troop with the Horse Artillery at Middletown

Let me have the pleasure of hearing from you soon — & be assured that I am very sincerely D[r] Sir your friend —

Gen[l] WHITTELSEY —

[Endorsed] To Gen[l] Whittelsey — 27. July 1816 orders de Riflemen

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO STEPHEN F. PALMER

[10:9]

SHARON 27. July 1816

Sir

Your letter of the 19th instant is received — I thank you for suggesting the subject of a Uniform for the Brigadier General of Cavalry & the brigade Staff — and I should have esteemed it an additional favour if you had also intimated your own wishes upon the point —

Blue & buff will most probably be deemed the appropriate colours of the dress — But you will please to communicate your opinion as to the form & fashion of the apparel — also of the helmet & boots — — The more particular you are in your descriptions the better — I will only remark at present that the Brigadier will expect to be distinguished from his staff more by his badges than his dress —

Your early attention to this request will be acceptable — I am Sir your obe^{t} Sr^{t} —
Genl PALMER —
[Endorsed] To Genl S. F. Palmer de uniform — 27. July 1816 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DAVID DEMING

[10:10]

SHARON 27, July 1816 —

Dr Sir

I ought perhaps to have consulted you at an earlier day relative to the Uniform of the Brigadier Genl of Artillery & his Staff and also of the field officers of the Light & Horse Artillery & the regimental staff — My apology must be found in the constant attention I have been compelled to aply to other parts of our militia system

Will you have the goodness (after sounding the feelings of y^{r} colonels) to favour me with your opinion upon this subject in detail

I have as yet received no report from the late Colonel now Genl Williams relative to the organization of the companies of Horse Artillery from the [l]ate 3rd reg^{t} of cavalry under the instructions given him in may last — and shall consequently in the gen^{l} order I am soon to issue feel some embarrassment in fixing the rank of companies in the Second regiment of Horse Artillery — That regiment you are sensible will consist of the companies just mentioned, the Second comp^{y} in the late 2nd reg^{t} of cavalry & the company in your vicinity — I will thank you to assist me with any information you possess in assigning the relative rank of these several companies— In the first regiment there will be no difficulty upon this point —

The Adjutant Genl will be here on the 9th of next month to make his final report — and it is hoped the Genl order embracing the organization of the Infantry, Artillery & Cavelry[sic] may be prepared by the 12th of the same month — I should be happy to hear from you respecting the rank of the companies by that time—

[Endorsed] To Gen[l] D. Deming de Uniform & rank of companies — 27. July 1816 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JAMES MONROE

[10:11]

State of Connecticut
SHARON July 28. 1816 —

Sir

I have received, through the Adjutant & Inspector General, a satisfactory reply to my letter of the 27th Ultimo — I beg you Sir to accept my grateful acknowledgement for your kind attention to my request and to be assured that I am with very great respect Sir

Your obliged & obedient servant
J. C. S — —

The Hon[ble] J. MONROE
Sec[y] of State —

STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF MEN RETURNED

[10:12]

Statement of the number of men returned as having performed military duty in the first Regiment from the year 1809 to the year 1815, inclusive.

	1809	1810	1811	1812	1813	1814	1815	
1st C[o]	71	70	77	64	52	49	71	These three companies are in Hartford, and by the proposed arrangement are to be united in one, from which a flank company is to be enlisted.
3[d] —"	47	42	43	43	53	42	56	
9th —"	27	34	21	39	41	30	51	
Total	145	146	161	146	146	121	178	

2d Co	19	27	32	26	28	24	35	These companies compose the first society in Windsor, and are recommended to be reduced to one.
4th "	32	32	27	36	32	28	29	
Total	51	59	59	62	60	52	64	
6th Co	28	35	33	27	33	27	41	This company consists of the society of Poquonock
7th Co	34	29	34	28	33	14	30	These two companies compose the society of Wintonbury, and are recommended to be reduced to one.
8th "	27	41	38	36	27	33	43	
Total	61	70	72	64	60	47	73	

Chas Hosmer, Adjt. 1st Regt.

Hartford, July 29, 1816.

From the above it will appear, that at the Regimental Review in Sept. last, the three companies in Hartford mustered but 178 men, and that this is the greatest number they have ever mustered. If these companies should be located into one, as is proposed, and the flank company enlisted from it, there will remain but 114 men who actually do duty, from which take 32 men, the number necessary to fill the Rifle Company, (which can be filled from no other, except that in Wintonbury) it will leave but 82 men, without allowing for those who may enlist into the two companies of Guards or the Artillery.

The two companies in Windsor, the 2d and 4th when united will have but 64 men, the number required by law.

The two companies in Wintonbury when united will have 73 men.

The company in Poquonock will have 41 men.

[on reverse side] JCS handwriting —

The flank company in Southington claims the precedence — That claim is not to be prejudiced by the present arrangement provided the proper evidence shall be hereafter exhibited of their prior origin as an enlisted company —

REPRESENTATION FROM MIDDLETOWN

[10:13]

MIDDLETOWN July 31st 1816 — — — — — — —

To his Excellency John C. Smith Esq., Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over the State of Connecticut, Sir, We the subscribers your faithful and obedient subjects, feel ourselves aggrieved by the late reorganization of the Militia, by which the 3rd & 6th Companies are to be united in one, which will extend over a territory of about 10 miles by 4 — including 135 men exclusive of Commissioned Officers, and including also more than half the limits of the Town of Middletown

Also a Captain is assigned to command us who, although for a short time has resided within our limits, belongs to another (small) company, and who neither ever recieved any of our votes, or ever commanded any of us

We therefore earnestly pray your Excellency to grant us relief in both cases, as we think there ought to be at least four companies in the Town of Middletown, but if the number must be reduced to three, we earnestly pray your Excellency to grant us the right of, at least nomiting our own Officers — — In behalf of the above mentioned companies, we subscribe ourselves your Excellency's most obedient and humble servants — —

JACOB ROBERTS Lieut.
BELA COE Lieut
DANIEL BIDWELL
HEZEKIAH HALE
JACOB HARRIS
CURTIS COE
LEVI COE
ELIJAH PADDOCK
} Serjts

JOSIAH M HUBBARD Ens —
FAIRCHILD CAMP Ensingn
LINUS COE
JOSEPH HALE
ALFRED BAILEY Corps
Granted the request as to the commanding officers. it appearing that Capt. Bacon never commanded either of the companies consolidated — but had barely removed within the limits —

[Superscribed] EBENEZER HUNTINGTON Esqr Adjt Gen. To be sent to Sharon Connecticut

[Endorsed] Representation from Middletown

CHARLES HOSMER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:14]

HARTFORD, July 31, 1816.

His Excellency John Cotton Smith, Esq.
Gov. & Capt Gen. of Conn. Militia
May it please your Excellency,

With this you will receive a paper approbating the recommendation of the Officers of the first Regiment in regard to the location of the Companies in the town of Hartford, exclusive of West Hartford, together with a letter from Gen. Tryon upon the same subject.

I have also taken the liberty to enclose a paper in regard to myself, which circumstances prevented my giving to the Adjt. Gen. when in this City.

With sentiments of esteem
I am your Excellency's obedient servt.
CHA^S HOSMER

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] M^r Ch. Hosmer — 31. July 1816 de his dismission &c. rec^d 2. Aug. answ^d 3^d

CHARLES HOSMER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:15]

To His Excellency John Cotton Smith

Col. James Loomis, of the first Regt. informs me that he has selected Mr. Theodore Pease of this City, to be Adjutant to the said Regt. under the new arrangement, — having served six years in the Staff of said Regt. the last three in the capacity of Adjutant, and finding my health such as nearly to incapacitate me from attending to my ordinary business, it is my wish to be exempted from further military service, if your Excellency should be of the opinion that I come within the provisions of the resolution of the Gen. Assembly upon that subject.

CHA^S HOSMER

HARTFORD, July 31, 1816.

CARLOS G. CURTIS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:16]

New Town Augt 1816

His Excellency J C Smith Esqr

Sir

Enclosed is a copy of the association requested by your Excellency.

My present place of residence is without the bounds of the company, and as I expect immediately to leave this place, I would mention John Beers of New Town late a Lieut. in the 2^{d} Co^{y} of H. Troop, as a proper person to receive any further instructions from Your Excellency. —

I am Your Excellency's
Obd^{t} Servt
Carlos G. Curtis

[Superscribed] His Excellency John C. Smith Esqr Sharon Connecticut New Town 26th Aug^{t}

[Endorsed] Capt. Carlos G. Curtis Newtown de Rifle comp.

JOHN DARLING TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:17]

Woodbridge Augt 1st 1816

Your Excellency

Sir — — I take the liberty of thus addressing you in behalf of Merrit Dorman having been 4 years an Enlisted & serviceable soldier in the 1st Com^{y} of State Troops lately under my command,

The situation is this, Dorman lives in Hamden in the limits of the Militia Com^{y} under command of Capt Jacob Whiting, he was returned by him a delinquent to the Board of Officers. Col^{o} Elisha Hull *President* he was fined & a warrant lies against him — as by Law there is no appeal in this case, he would supplicate on the ground that he considered himself holden under me as the Com^{y} had not at that time determined about forming themselves into an independent Company further the General Officers gave their opinion to the several Captains that it was

not expedient to call on the State Troops, till they were disposed of in the Reorganization — Capt Whiting held his certificate of Enlistment & Dorman supposing himself not their subject made no excuse to the Board, If your Excellency would condescend to notice this it would be very gratifying to me & many others who feel a little interest in the case, this being the only fine to my knowledge laid upon the state Troops —

Your very Obedient &
humble Servant
JOHN DARLING

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr
Sharon Connt

[Endorsed] Jno Darling Esqr 1st Augt 1816 recd & answd 10th

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:18]

BRIDGEPORT 2d August 1816

My dear sir

Previous to leaving Norwich last week on monday I wrote your excellency acknowledging your esteemed favour of the 13th July, since which I received at Hartford a duplicate of the same, & this day a triplicate —

On my way from Woodbury to this place I had a direct conveyance to Colonel Hall which I improved, & wrote to him that I wished him to meet me here, (that I might obtain the desired information respecting his regiment.) — I expect he will be here this day — — — If the satisfaction manifested by the officers generally, is a sure criterion by which a judgement may be formed, I shall not expect much excitement by the organization of the militia — — but had I known the extent of the trouble & fatigue attending it, I strongly doubt my willingness to have encountered it — — —

I shall avail myself (when at Sharon next week) of the opportunity of making some remarks on the *late formations*

I am with esteem & respect
Sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency
Governour SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon Military returns Eben: Huntington

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO OLIVER HITCHCOCK

[10:19]

SHARON 3. Aug. 1816

Sir — I have just received your letter of the 27th ulto — And in reply I would observe that having lately examined particularly into the value of the Dyer farm in Vermont and the lot of fifty acres lying west of it I should be unwilling to take less than two thousand four hundred dollars for them — I am sensible this is a larger price than you seemed to affix when I had the pleasure to see you at my house — but many circumstances which I have not time now to detail concern in impressing me with a belief that it would be as well for me to keep these lands as to part with them for that sum even if the money were to be paid in hand —

I shall make no objection to the length of credit requested provided sufficient security be given for the ultimate discharge of the principal & the annual payment of the interest —

I am Sir respectfully your obt sert

Mr HITCHCOCK —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ARNOLD P. HUMPHREYS

[10:20]

Aug. 1816

Sir —

I have received your letter of the 27th instant — The Q. M. General will supply you with harness for your gun-carriages without any particular directions from me —

I thank you for your suggestions relative to the situation of the militia in Canton & am Sir your

obt & hum. srt

Capt. HUMPHREYS —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

[10:21]

SHARON 3. Aug. 1816 —

Dr Sir

Your letter of the 25th ult. is received — Mine of the 27th will in some measure have anticipated your inquiries — In that, I mentioned the expediency of issuing a provisional order for the regulation of the Rifle corps — until a more definitive system can be adopted. and until an augmentation & a regimental disposition of the corps shall render such a system more immediately necessary* — — As you propose a meeting of your captains you will have an opportunity of ascertaining their feelings & of maturing your own opinion upon the points you suggest — towit — The dimensions of the rifle — the rules of exercise — and the Uniform — and I do think we had best postpone any service directions respecting these particulars until after that meeting — For as to the rifle if we were now decided as to its quality we should hardly require the men to procure it by the september training — And the same may be said of a new uniform if we were now to propose one — It seems especially necessary to sound the dispositions of both officers & men relative to this point inasmuch as I have assured the companies formed from the state troops, & they comprize nearly the whole, that they should be allowed their customary uniform — I could not think therefore of changing it at present without their entire consent — — There appear to be two objections to a distinction of apparel in the two regiments — 1. We know not how the regiments will be divided nor can we until either the corps is full — or it is concluded to rest satisfied with the present number of companies — 2. When detachments shall be made from the brigade for actual service (and in time of war resort will probably be had to detachments when a less number than the whole is called out) the men of different regiments thus brought together will be rather too variegated in their appearance for *members of the same corps* — Perhaps these difficulties may be obviated — in which case I shall be

very happy to accede to the proposition, if it is the desire of the officers generally on the whole thought to be acceptable by the brigade

No Colonels having been appointed Your "certificates to such captains & subalterns as are in uniform & have done duty" I think will come fairly within the spirit of the law — I advise you in those cases to grant them in full confidence that the legislature will sanction the procedure should it be called in question by the municipal authorities — It is also my impression that the non-commissioned officers & privates who shall have faithfully complied with the brigade order which in my last I authorized you to issue will be likewise entitled to certificates from their captains —

I should be much gratified to see the rifle you mention —

With sincere regard I am Dr Sir
your friend & ob^t^ ser^t^—

* Having the prosperity & respectability of this part of our military force much at heart I feel the importance of exploring cautiously every inch of our ground, new as it is to us all, rather than to be obliged in a single instance to retrace our steps —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHARLES HOSMER

[10:22]

SHARON 3. Aug. 1816

Sir

Your letter of the 31. ult. is received with the communications accompanying it —

If there are two adjutants within the limits of the proposed first regiment, the selection of one of them by the Colonel will give the other a fair claim to an entire exemption from military duty —

It does not appear from your representation that you are a supernumerary — and unless such is the fact as you have not served the period required by law, a discharge from your present office will not liberate you from future service — Still sir if you desire it on the ground of ill health I will cheerfully dismiss you *from the office of Adjutant* on your procuring the recom-

mendation of the Colonel which is always requisite in such cases —

In the communication accompanying your letter reference is had to an application signed by Col. Caldwell & others — None such has come to hand — It may have been enclosed to the Adjutant Genl I understand there are packets in the Post office in this place addressed to him — He will be here in the course of next week to make his final report — The subject will then be taken into consideration —

I am Sir your ob^{t} & hm^{l} sr^{t}

[Endorsed] To Mr Charles Hosmer 3. Aug. 1816

AMARIAH KIBBEE, JR. TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:23]

To John Cotton Smith Esqr Capt General of the State of Connecticut

Sir in my returns of the Staff officers of the proposed 19th Reg^{t} I returned Theodore Pease as Adjutant of the same he being formally Adjutant of the 31st Reg^{t} and now holds an Ensigns Commission in the 3^{d} Co,, in s^{d} 19th Reg^{t} and will be willing to do duty as Ensign if he should still be continued Adjutant in s^{d} Reg^{t},

I understand that Col. Loomis of the 1st Reg^{t} has also returned him as Adjutant of his Reg^{t} S^{d} Pease was returned by me as Adjutant of the 19th Reg^{t} because I considered him a member of s^{d} 19th Reg^{t} although living within the limits of the 1st Reg^{t} because he held a commission in s^{d} 19th Reg^{t}.

Now if S^{d} Pease is considered as Adjutant of the 1st Reg^{t} where there are now two Adjutants I shall have to appoint one anew in the 19th Reg^{t} above alluded to, and likewise the 3^{d} C^{o} in s^{d} Reg^{t} will be destitute of an Ensign I therefore Request your Excellency to retain S^{d} Pease as Adjutant in s^{d} 19th Reg^{t} if you should think proper

I am Sir with Great respect
& Esteem yours Sincerely
AMARIAH KIBBEE JU^{r} L^{t} Co^{l}
of Proposed 19th Reg^{t}

dated at SOMERS this
5th Day of August 1816
[Superscribed] JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr Capt General of the State of Connecticut Sharon
[Endorsed] Col. A. Kibbee Jr. 5. Augt. 1816 recd 9th answd 10th

JEDIDIAH BUELL, JR. TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:24]

KILLINGWORTH Augt 5th 1816

His Excellency John C Smith — Capt.
General of the State of Connecticut.

Sir —

Having for more than 15 years past cheerfully borne the burthen — fatigue — & expense of Military Duty — without any omition — in the militia till 1812 — from that time till the close of the war — a non commissiond officer in the 2d comp. of St. Art. under the command of Capt. Bray (& most of the time During that period in *real service,*) — and now a Sergeant in the Artillery company under the command of Capt. Bray — a progressive Debility — and increasing Ill health has for some time past rendered me incapable of attending to the business by which my family are supported as formerly — Indeed for some years I could hardily have been considered a subject of military Duty — though I have done it when I could not attend to my own business — as I ought — — — — I therefore pray your Excellency to accept of what services I have rendered — & at the same time Discharge me from Liability to Military Duty in futer[sic] — — —

I have recently applyd to Gen. Demming — who informd me that he should cheerfully comply with my request were he authorised to Do — — —

Your Excellencys Obt. Serv.t
JEDIDIAH BUELL JR

[Over]

This may Certify that I have in years past repeatedly been called to prescribe for Jedidiah Buel Jur on account of diseas & weakness of his breast — which infirmity still continues verry

troublesome at times & in my opinion he is thereby an unfit subject for military Service — — — — —

KILLINGWORTH AUSTIN OLCOTT

August 5th 1816.

His Excellency John C Smith

Sir —

The facts Stated by Mr Buell in his application are so far as I have been conversant Correct — few men of Mr Buell.s standing have done more military Duty than he has done — — & I believe *few* have a better claim for a Discharge — I can cheerfully recommend him to your Excellency — as a fit subject for a Discharge

Very Respectfully your
Excellencys Obt. Servt
AMAZIAH BRAY

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Governor of Connecticut Sharon Con.

[Endorsed] Sergeant Buell of Killingworth — for a discharge —

JOHN B. CHITTENDEN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:25]

GUILFORD Augst 5th 1816

Sir.

Yours of the 27th of June was receivd in time the contents of which were duely noticd

As the Light Infantry company in this Town was raisd by enlistment I suppose that agreeably to the instructions given to the Adjutant General it will remain a Lt Inft Company in the Regiment about to be organizd in this vicinity — — On examining the military laws I find that no Officer has authority to give orders for the filling up of enlisted companies but the Capt. General The Light Infantry company in Guilford is at present small containing only about 30 privates There are two battalion companies in this society each of which is much larger than the Light company as may be seen by the last returns These two

companies I understand are to be united in one which will of course be quite large — — — —
My request therefore is that y^{r} Excellency would give orders for the enlargement of the Light Infantry Comp from the companies before mention^{d} — — — —
I would also request that an order may be given as soon as convenient that I may have an opportunity of filling up the company previous to our approaching training in September

From y^{r} Excellencies most obedient &
humble servant
Jno B Chittenden

[Superscribed] His Excellency John Cotton Smith Esqr
Sharon Guilford August 5

[Endorsed] Capt. J. B. Chittenden for recruiting orders 5. Aug. 1816 rec^{d} 9th answ^{d} 10th

STEPHEN F. PALMER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:26]

Ashford 5th August 1816

Sir

your letter of the 27th July I recd on saturday and improve the first mail. As your Excellency wishes my particular description of the form and fashion of the Coat for the Brigade officers of the Cavalry. If it should meet your Excellencies aprobation I should prefer the form and fashion of the United States officers without Buf[f] Facings, Vest and Panteloons Buff As to the Helmet black Jackie and Japaned leather hull a strip of Beer Skin from front to rear with a Blue band with Tassels As to the Boots Long Boots with Black tops I think appears very will for a light horsman If your Excellency has a different opinion I am not strenuous upon any particular of the above partial description. If your Excellency has it in contemplation to fix a uniform for the Cavalry of this State it would be an accomidation to have it done at this time as there is a Number of officers and soldiers that are expecting an alteration in the uniform now waiting your Excellencies direction

I am Sir your Ob^{d} & Hum Servt

Goven^{r} Smith

Stephen F. Palmer

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon Ashford Augt 5
[Endorsed] Genl S. F. Palmer — 5. Aug. 1816 answ^{d} 17th

CURTIS WILCOX AND OTHERS TO BENJAMIN BALDWIN

[10:27]

EAST-GUILFORD August 6th 1816

Col^{o} Baldwin Sir

We the subscribers officers & Soldiers in the 4th Company in the 27th Regiment of the Militia in this State and sundry of the Inhabitants of the Society of East-Guilford in the Town of Guilford beg leave to represent that the Militia Company in this Society hath for nearly a Century been a peaceable and harmonious Company, that but few breaches have ever been made in it by inlistments from it into other Military corps, that at the present time it is more respectable as to numbers and we believe as much so in discipline as most Companies in the vicinity, that this Company is connected with a considerable number of the Companies in the Regiment by Town Limits and the whole by County lines, and that upon those accounts more harmony & friendship hath been kept up between the Militia of the Regiment; that the proposed alteration in the Regiment by the addition of Wallingford & North Haven will make but little difference, as the Majority of the Regiment will be the same as before — — although the Travel to the extreme parts of the Regiment will be something further than to the extreme parts of the 7th Reg^{t} yet the Travel to the *center* will be about the same to each; that the Habits & Customs of the company in this place are more conformable to those of the 27th Reg^{t} than to those of any other; that this Company hath for many years been ambitious to hold a conspicuous place in the Reg^{t} where they have been trained from the earliest period of their Military Service — — That provided the Company is anexed to the 7th Reg^{t} and incorporated with Companies with whom the members are entirely unacquainted as to any military connection, — is there not danger that the military ambition of the Company

may be much injured; — — that the Company may be continued with the Regim^{t} with which it has been so long Connected is the wish of the officers, Soldiers & Inhabitants who have hereunto subscribed their names — —

Officers & Soldiers — —
Curtis Wilcox Capt
Hubbard Grave L^{t}
Jonathan Scranton Ensign
Achilles Willard
Charles A Dowel
Ichabod L Scranton
Timothy Dudley
Eber Judd
Galen Doud
Lyman Dowd
Henry Scranton
Hubbard Scranton
Heman Dowd
Julius Willard J^{R}
James Willard
Charles Bishop
Frederick L Whedon ?
Zenas Willcox
W^{M} Coe
Ezekiel Denison
Abel Willcox
James Hill
Samuel Norton
Amos Bishop
James Grave
John Spencer
John H Hand
Jira Bush
Jehiel M Conklin
Samuel P Conkling
John Conklin
Horace Munger
Julius Shelley
Nathan F Bassett
James Smith
Samuel Griffing
Benjamin Scranton
Jos Scranton
Garner Doud
Elisha Bassett
Frederick W Scranton
Willam Munger
Samuel Smith
Joshua Dowd
James R Pardy
J, J, Wilcox
James Harrison
Josiah C Chittenden
John Grave 2^{d}
Ralph S Crampton
Phinehas Dudley
Darius Coe
Justin Coe

Inhabitants — — — —

Jonathan Todd
Phinehas Meigs
Theophilus Scranton
Nathan Bushnell
Willoughby L Lay
Thomas Anderson Jr
Theophilus Scranton Jr
Reuben R Fowler
John Bishop
Heman Coe
Julius Willard

Timothy Dowd 2d
Return Wilcox
Daniel Meigs
Cyrus Bradley
Lius Bishop
Darius Crampton
Jno F Meigs
Johnson Field
Joseph Willcox
Daniel H Smith
Jesse Munger
Jonathan Lee
Selah Lee
Fredk Lee
John M. Nicholas
Wyllys W. Dowd
Ambrose Dudley
Zub. Field JR
Munson Rose
Reuben Bartlet
Jesse Crampton 2d
Wyllys Munson

ARNOLD P. HUMPHREYS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:28]

Canton August 6th 1816 — — — —

Dear Sir — —

In the late location of companies in the proposed 17th Regt (Formerly the 18th) there ware three companies in the town of Simsbury which ware reduced to two — — — — — which added to the south company in Simsbury about Fifteen men (those men live in the town of Simsbury & in the parish of Wintonbury) — — — —

I am informed that being displeased on account of being disbanded as a company & flattered by the officers in the first Regt. they have it in contemplation to petition your Excellency to be annexed to the first Regt. — —should they make an application of this kind I am of opinion it ought not to be granted — — — as I think it would be done injustice to take from a small Regt. & add to one that is much larger as you will see by the documents laid before your Excellency by the Augt. Genl. that the first Regt. is much larger than the proposed 17th Regt. — — — —

& in the second place if those men are taken from the south company in Simsbury the company will remain small & can get no additions to it from any other quarter — — — —

In the observations which have been made I would not attempt to dictate or point out to your Excellency the line of conduct you ought to pursue & if on due examination your opinion should differ from mine be assured Sir I shall support any measures you shall adopt And when my efforts cease to promote the good of the Militia may I cease to be an officer — — —

With sincere Respect — — —

I am Yours &C.

ARNOLD P HUMPHREYS

Lieut Col. Comd^{t} 18th Regt.

His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esqr

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esqr Gov. of the State Connecticut Sharon Canton Aug 5th

[Endorsed] Col. Arn^{d} Humphreys 6. Augt 1816 rec^{d} 16th answ^{d} 17th

CHARLES HOSMER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:29]

HARTFORD Aug. 7. 1816.

His Excellency John C. Smith,

May it please your Excellency

It was my intention to have stated in my letter of the 31st ult. that there are two Adjutants within the limits of the newly located regiment, viz. Mr. Theodore Pease, who has lately removed into this City from Enfield, and myself, and that I am the senior. The haste in which that letter was written, is the reason of the omission. Having served pretty zealously in the militia for thirteen years, with the neglect of but one day, with my feeble state of health, I feel desirous of being exempted from future service.

With respect, I am

Your Excellency's Obt. Servt.

CHA^{S} HOSMER

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon C^{t}

[Endorsed] Ch^{s} Hosmer Adj^{t} 1. Reg^{t} requesting a discharge as a supernumerary Discharge forwarded

DAVID DEMING TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:30]

COLCHESTER August 9th 1816

Dear Sir

I regret that it has not been in my power to answer your Excellencies favour of the 27th ultimo ere this. In order to ascertain the rank of the companies composing the 2nd Regt of Horse Artillery, I was under the necessity of making enquiries of the gentlemen who formerly commanded these companies The result I with pleasure communicate

1st Company Colchester & East Haddam
2nd — " — Newlondon & Norwich
3rd — " — Saybrook
4th — " — Groton & Stonington

The precise date of the formation of the companies cannot be ascertained; still, I am fully of opinion that the proposed arrangement will be perfectly satisfactory. I shall have an opportunity of conferring with my Colonels upon the subject of a uniform for the Field Officers &c on the 15th instt and will immediately after communicate my opinion in detail — Will your Excellency have the goodness to inform me if it is expected that the Artillery are to be calld out by Regiments or Battalions the present fall —

I have the honour to be your Excellencies Obdt
& very humble servt
DAVID DEMING

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Con Colchester C Augt 9th — — —

[Endorsed] Genl Deming 9. Aug. 1816 de rank of companies and reviews &c answd 16. Aug. (by the Ad. Genl)

BENJAMIN BALDWIN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:31]

GUILFORD 9th August 1816 — — — —

To His excellency Governour Smith Capt.
General of Connecticut militia —

Sir,

Your Excellency's letter of 25th ultimo including a remonstrance from the people in Durham has been received. On perceiving the situation in which the militia Company in East Guilford was placed I lost no time in transmitting the whole communition to Capt. Wilcox the officer now in command at that place. I find by his statement to me that the feelings of the Officers soldiers & principal inhabitants there are entirely opposed to the petition made to your Excellency from Durham — They are willing to admit that the distance into the eastern Regiment may a little less than it is at present still they urge that this small advantage would would not compensate for the greater inconveniences which would result by the propos'd exchange —

In fact sir they are so totally opposed to a separation from their own town that they have deputed Mr Todd Esqr the Bearer (a Gentleman on whom your Excellency may place the utmost reliance) as a special messenger to make a representation to your Excellency of their feelings

After referring your excellency to Mr Todd for particulars I shall close this by saying that after taking a candid review of the whole I cannot conceive that the militia on the whole would be benefitted by the proposed exchane

I am sir your Excellency's
very obt & hmble servt
B. Baldwin

His Excellency Gov. Smith

[Superscribed] To His Excellency John C. Smith Capt. Genl
Con. Mil. Sharon — — — pr Wm Todd Eqsr

[Endorsed] Remonstrance from East Guilford —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO AMARIAH KIBBEE, JR.

[10:32]

Sharon 10. Aug. 1816 —

Sir

Your letter is received — It is represented to me that Mr Theodore Pease has removed to Hartford with the intention of residing in that city within the limits of the first regiment —

It also appears he is returned as Adjutant of that regiment — Being thus at a distance from the regiment under your command it must be alike inconvenient for him & for yourself and might be prejudicial to the public intent that he should be retained as your adjutant — — I consider it therefore most proper that he be permitted to serve as Adjutant of the first regiment & that you should make another selection — This arrangement will not affect the standing of Mr Pease as ensign of the third company in your regiment — It may indeed furnish him with a good excuse for retiring from that office, but until he makes an application for the purpose he will be held liable to perform its duties excepting on regimental or battalion occasions in the 1st regt — I am Sir your obt Set

J. C. S —

Col. Amariah Kibbee Jr Lt Col. Com. 19th regt

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN DARLING

[10:33]

Sharon 10. Aug. 1816

Sir —

I have received your letter and in reply would observe that the soldier you mention had a right by law to appeal from the decision of the board of officers to the Major General of the Division — However much I might be disposed to interfere in the case, the law has not given me the power —

I am respectfully Sir your
very obedt sert —

J. Darling Esqr

[Endorsed] Jno Darling Esqr 10. Aug. 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN B. CHITTENDEN

[10:34]

Capt. John B. Chittenden of the first flank company in the 10th regiment —

Sir

Your letter of the 5th instant is received. It was my intention

not to have issued an order relative to enlistments until the Gen[l] order for the reorganization of the militia should be completed which will be done very shortly — Considering however the reduced state of your company I do hereby authorize you to recruit from the limits of the first battalion company in the 10th regiment (which will comprehend the first society in Guilford) provided you do not thereby reduce the said first battalion company below its legal complement —

Dated the 10th day of August AD 1816 —

CARLOS G. CURTIS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:35]

New Town 11th Aug. 1816

His Excellency Gov. Smith

Sir

A part of the late 2[d] Company 1st Reg[t] State Troops, have requested me as their Commadant at the time of their reduction, to inform your Excellency, that they are desirous of being organized as a Company of Riflemen if not now too late for your Excellency to accept them. The company was originally rais'd from this and 3 adjoining towns; Those only who belong to the Town of New Town 35 in number have as yet volunteer'd for the service propos'd; but it is believ'd that about 10 more of them will offer themselves, and that little difficulty will be experienced in obtaining a full company should permission be granted to enlist from the Militia Companies. I am further requested to enquire of your Excellency whether the Troops will be permitted to wear the uniforms prescrib'd for them when belonging to the State Corps. should they be accepted as Riflemen — — — —

I am Your Excellencys
Obd[t] Serv[t]
Carlos. G. Curtis

[Superscribed] His Excellency John C. Smith Esq[r] Sharon Connecticut — — Newtown Sept 12th 1816

[Endorsed] Capt. Curtis (Newtown) 11. Aug. 1816 (de Riflemen) answ[d] 17th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO RUSSELL C. ABERNETHY

[10:36]

12. Aug. 1816

Dr Sir —

The Adjutant General is now with me for the purpose of making his final report on the reorganization of the militia — The only Serious difficulty which remains to be encountered in preparing the General Order is the proposed formation of the regiment assigned to your command — I believe with your advice & assistance an embarrassment may be removed which at present appears to be otherwise insurmountable — Will you have the goodness therefore to be at my home at as early an hour tomorrow as your convenience will permit? and at the same time to bring with you the roster of your regiment—?

I am Dr Sir with sincere regard &c

Col. Abernethy —

Also

State of Connecticut —

It appearing on the reorganization of the militia there are supernumerary commissioned officers within the bounds of the first com. 20th Regt and Capt. Samuel Crowell of the 1. comp. in the late 24th Regt having made his election to retire from command as a Supernumerary officer I do therefore at his request hereby discharge him from further military duty —

Given &c Dated 9th Aug. 1816

State of Connecticut

It appearing on the reorganization of the militia that Mr Charles Hosmer Adjutant of the first regiment of infantry is returned as a supernumerary staff officer I do hereby at his request grant him an honourable discharge from further service —

Given under my hand &c—

SAMUEL CATLIN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:37]

Say Brook August 13th 1816

To His Excellency
John Cotton Smith Esquire

Sir

I, inclose to You A Recommend from Lieut Co[l] John Brainard, that I may be discharged from Militia Duty, as Surgeon of the 7th Reg[t] Militia — — I Last Autum forwarded to Brigadier Gen[l] Howe, A Reccomend that I might be discharged, which the Generall decided Exceeded his Powers & intimated that Your Excellency was the only Officer that Could discharge A Surgeon — — — —

The Length of time I have Served, It being Thirteen years, Two years as Surgeons Mate & Eleven Years as Surgeon, Together With the Increasing duties of my Professional Business Induce me to Hope that Your Excellency will grant my Request & Forward Me a discharge from Militia Duty — — —

I am With Respect
Your Ob[t] Serv[t]
SAMUEL CATLIN Surgeon
7th Reg[t] Con. Militia

[Superscribed] To His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esquire Sharon — — — Connecticut — — Say Brook Aug[t] 14

[Endorsed] Doct. Sam[l] Catlin — 13. Aug. 1816 requesting a discharge granted & forwarded 17. Aug. 1816 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CARLOS G. CURTIS

[10:38]

SHARON 17. August 1816 —

Sir

I have received your letter under date of the 11th instant —

It will give me pleasure to organize a company of Riflemen in Newtown and its vicinity. The individuals you mention as having already volunteered from the company of state troops lately under your command, and such as may conveniently associate with them, amounting in the whole to forty five (or even forty) will answer very well for a beginning — — there being little or no doubt that the ranks may be readily filled in Newtown without reducing the infantry company below its legal complement — — — — You can send me the association (or a copy of it) by mail;

and I will immediately furnish you (or any other military character you may designate) with instructions to lead the associates to a choice of officers. They will be permitted to wear the uniform of the late state troops; and the officers chosen will be allowed (under the late resolve of Assembly) to take the command of the company, without waiting for commissions to be formally issued in the first instance —

The corps will probably be filled in a short time, and as applications are now frequent, it is desirable that I should receive an early reply to the present communication —

I am Sir your obedient &
humble servant

Capt. Curtis — — J. C. Smith —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DAVID DEMING

[10:39]

Sharon 15. Aug. 1816

Dear Sir —

In reply to your favour of the 9th instant I would observe that the Artillery in my opinion ought not to be called out this fall in large masses than by battalion — I am even strongly inclined to believe that the recruiting service & the interests of that corps generally would be greatly promoted by permitting the companies *to be inspected on their own parade* — The duty of visiting the companies when divided amongst all field officers will not be very severe — A different course can be taken where a battalion is tolerably compact & feel a desire to meet — but I shall be perfectly satisfied to dispense with any regimental or battalion inspection for this one Season —

I am Dr Sir in haste

Genl Deming —
[Endorsed] To Genl Deming —

TIMOTHY BISHOP TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:40]

New Haven August 17th 1816 — —

It has become my duty to inform your Excellency that the of-

fice of First Lieutenant, in the 2d Company of Govrs Foot Guards (under my command), has become vacant, by the death of Lieut Jared Doolittle — — — — I wait your Excellencys order with regard to leading the Comy to a choice to fill that vacancy &c &c — — — — I have the honor to be

yr Exys Obt H. St —
TIMOTHY BISHOP
Maj Comt 2d Cy Govrs Ft Gds

— — — — —

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq
Captain General

[Superscribed] His Exy JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Captain General St Ct Sharon Cont

[Endorsed] Major Bishop 17. Aug. 1816 — requesting orders &c order issued 24. Aug. 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ARNOLD P. HUMPHREYS

[10:41]

SHARON 17. Aug. 1816 —

Sir

Your favour of the 6th instant did not arrive until after the General order relative to the organization of the militia was prepared —

The Adjt Genl had made a special report respecting that part of Simsbury which is included within the parish of Wintonbury — From a view of all the circumstances it appeared to me most proper to adhere in this instance to the rule of keeping the militia of each located Society together as far as might be practicable — We have endeavoured not to depart from this rule unless in a few strong cases & then chiefly at the request of the individuals concerned — I am sensible there is a considerable *apparent* difference in the numbers of the first & seventeenth regiments — but after the several select companies already formed & now forming within the bounds of the former shall be filled up I apprehend the *real* strength of the two regiments will be found very nearly equal —

Accept my thanks sir for the laudable solicitude you have manifested on this occasion — & particularly for the just & patriotic sentiments expressed at the close of your letter — —

I am Sir with sincere regard
your ob^{t} & hm. Ser^{t}
J. C. S

Col. Humphreys —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO STEPHEN F. PALMER

[10:42]

Sharon 17. Aug. 1816 —

Sir —

I have received your letter of the 5th instant — Not having noticed "the form & fashion" of the coat worn by the U. States officers — it is not in my power should I adopt it to describe it with that particularity which is necessary in a general order — — I regret therefore that you have not given me a full description of it —especially as I am entirely disposed to gratify your wishes as far as may be consistent without departing too much from the uniform worn by other Brigadiers of the militia Ought there not to be a distinction in dress between the regular army & the militia? It is my present impression that you ought with your blue coat to wear at least cuffs & collar of buff — I presume also you will consider that as you wear a helmet a short coat is more suitable than a long one — The buff under dress you propose & the helmet & boots I think very proper — Your badges (that is to say your epaulettes & plume & those of your staff will be the same with those of officers of the like grades in the Infantry — — As the time is short before you may wish to appear in the field, you can frame your dress upon the foregoing ideas if you prefer to do so without waiting for a general order which may issue afterwards or you may communicate with me further upon the subject if you desire it — The Commander in chief is not authorized by any existing law to *change* uniforms where they are already established — Consequently I had not contemplated making any alterations in the dress of the other officers or the privates of the cavalry —

DANIEL M. GREGORY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:43]

RICHMOND. Virginia. August 18. 1816

Respected Sir

Observing the return of the Rev. I. Gallaudet & presuming the deaf & dumb Institution would soon go into Operation I would take the liberty to mention an acquaintance of mine whose Situation Claims a large Share of the Philanthropy of the establishment, when carrying on the Glass manufactory at Sand Lake (N. York) we had a man by the name of Henry Sherwood (a Steady industrious mechanic) who had I believe four, Very active Children but all perfectly deaf & dumb, he has made frequent & anxious enquiries respecting those institutions wishing to find some relief for his great affliction. If Sir you would be so good as to inform me the Conditions and at what Age Pupils are received no assistance of mine Shall be wanting in their behalf, (the Man being indigent) he now lives in the Com^{n} wealth of Massachusetts, I calculate to Visit the deaf & dumb School near Petersburgh in this State soon, & hope next season will afford me an opportunity of Seeing the One at Hartford, with a Call at my native Sharon — — —

Yours most Respectfully
DANIEL M. GREGORY

His Excelency J. C. SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excelency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon Connecticut

[Endorsed] Danl M. Gregory — Richmond (Virginia) rec^{d} 30. Aug. 1816 —

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:44]

NORWICH 19th 1816

My dear sir

I have the pleasure of dating this communication from home, which I reached yesterday morning 7 °Clock by availing myself

of that time usually devoted to rest — — — Finding the heat and dust very oppressive by day, I was obliged to travel very slow — — and feeling the necessity of an early promulgation of the order, & an anxious desire to return home it prompted to every exertion that my horse would reasonably sustain — — — — — On my reaching Hartford, I found that my note to the Mirrour office had not been rec^{d} — — — but I was in abundant season to have a note inserted in the Courant of this day — — — I have employed McGoodwin to print the Genl Order which I shall expect on friday at which time I shall have prepared the schedule of officers & shall distribute them the beginning of next week — — —

I saw Genl Williams this day who informs me that the corps of Horse Artillery is completed, & that on application by the Capatin, General Deming has issued orders for the associates to be led to a choice of officers — — a return thereof will probably be made this week — — — I have not rec^{d} any return of officers names, in consequence of my letters from Sharon but presume to morrows mail may possibly furnish me with some — I think Col^{o} Abernethys may reach me on Wednesday — — — — I shall be able next week to forward the laws as directed by the act of the Legislature, as by the middle of the week I shall probably have them printed — — — — Mrs Huntington joins me in Respects to yours & your sons families

I am with respect & esteem
very sincerely yours — —
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] Adj^{t} Genl — 19. Aug. 1816 — rec^{d} 24th noticed in my letter of this date —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JAMES WADSWORTH

[10:45]

SHARON 19. August 1816

Dear Sir —

The communication from the town of Durham, to which your

venerable name (with other reputable signatures) is affixed, requesting that a formation of the 7th regiment may be adopted different from the one reported by the General and Field officers of the Second brigade, was duly received and has been attentively considered — —

In making the arrangements required by the act, it was found expedient to pay a special regard to the local attachments of our fellow citizens. Accordingly it was early established as a rule, not to seperate a society from its parent town and throw it into a different regiment, unless the strength of the regiments would otherwise be so unequal as to render such a measure indispensable. — I have endeavoured not to depart from this rule, excepting where exchanges have been made by the consent and for the particular accommodation of the parties concerned. — — In the present case it appears the strength of the regiment will not be disproportionate and it also appears by a remonstrance from the militia and principal inhabitants of East Guilford that they are utterly opposed to a seperation from their own town. — — — — Under these circumstances Sir you will readily perceive it was impossible, consistantly with the principles at first assumed to vary the formation of the 7th regiment from the report made by the board of officers; and without such an alteration, or without an entire change of the system, I could not with propriety annex the town of Durham to any other regiment —

In consolidating thirty five regiments into twenty four, it could not but happen that the territory covered by each would be enlarged, and consequently that the travel to attend regimental meetings would in several towns be somewhat increased. This was unavoidable — — Wherever such cases occur we can only rely on the known patriotism of our fellow-citizens in making partial sacrifices with cheerfulness for the attainment of great public objects — —

With the greatest respect & esteem I am
Dr Sir your obedient & humble
Servant—
John Cotton Smith —

Gen[l] Wadsworth —

[Endorsed] Honble J^{s} Wadsworth Durham — de petition of that town — —

PETITION FROM CHAUNCEY IVES AND OTHERS

[10:46]

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over the State of Connecticut. — — —

May it please your Excellency. —

We the undersigned soldiers in Capt Daniel Richardson's Company & Col^{o} Nathaniel Hayden's Reg^{t} belonging to the town of Barkhamsted and in the very eastern extremity of Winsted Society, and having ever performed Military duty in the first Society in Barkhamsted; but being informed that by the new military arrangements we are annexed to a Company in the town of Winchester for Military services, we would therefore give your Excellency to understand that the travel to attend Company exercise in the first society [of] Barkhamsted would on an avarage be two an[d] an half or three miles. — — — but to attend for the same purpose in Winsted Society would be five and an half miles or about double the distance, therefore we your Excellencys petitioners are unable to see the necessity of our being compelled to attend military duty in a town and Society other than that in which our relatives connexions, and acquaintance reside, we would hereby pray your Excellency to order that each one of us may be attached to the Company in the first Society in Barkhamsted for military purposes, we furthermore state to your Excellency that we feel satisfied not the least evil would result to the military cause from granting the prayer of your Petitioners

Dated at Barkhamsted — Chauncey Ives
this 20th day of August 1816 — Reuben Preston
Erastus Gilbert
Asa Gilbert Jr

P S If your Excellency is pleased to grant our petition we should be happy to receive an answer to that effect before the general training in Sepr next — If your Excellency pleases di-

rect the Letter to Capt Daniel Richardson of Barkhamsted. — — — —

It is desired that all the tract of land known by the name of the Mastswamp Tier of Lotts may be joined to the first Society. — There are six families now living on said Lotts —

[Superscribed] To his Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esqr Captain General & Commander in chief in & over the State of Connec^{t} Sharon Paid 8

[Endorsed] Petition of certain persons in Winsted to do military duty in 1. Soc^{y} in Barkhamsted — Answered 26. Aug. 1816

[10:47]

Printed copy of Brigade orders omitted in this publication.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[10:48]

SHARON 20. Aug. 1816 —

Dr Sir —

The annexation of the North east corner of Colebrook (or that part lying east of Farmington river) to the West Society of Hartland has become a subject of serious complaint to the inhabitants — It was represented to you (according to your report to me) that this arrangement was made by their desire & for their particular accommodation — Such however appears not to be the fact — As we have made it a rule not to cut off fragments from towns & societies in this manner without their consent — it is my desire if the order is not already in print that the thing may be set right — no alteration need be made in the command of the companies, nor will the aggregate force of the regiment be at all affected — The amendment will be merely to strike out of the description of the 6th company in 21. reg^{t} these words — *and that part of Colebrook which lies East of Farmington river* — and from the 7th company these words (*excepting that part lying east of Farmington river*) —

I enclose the petition — from which you will perceive that

a misrepresentation of the feelings of these people must have been made to you by some of the officers of that regiment — The petitioners send an express with this letter —

I am Dr Sir in great haste

(& with our kind regards to Mrs H.) yours

Keep the petition on file

[Endorsed] To the Adjt General — with the Colebrook Petition 20. Aug. 1816

CERTIFICATION OF AMASA COWLES, JR.

[10:49]

This may certif that I was present when the officers of the 21st Regt was called together to make the location of the companies which was unanimously agreed to I was also present when Gen1 Huntington Inspected the location when there was Some objection from Barkhamsted respecting that section which was Set to the Hartland Companies— — It was stated before Gen1 Huntington that the Soldiers were unwilling to go to Hartland the Gen1 then ask.d Col. Heydon if he had seen the men he said he had not seen all of but he had seen a part of them and thoose[sic] he had seen were in favour of the Location — — The business was mannaged by Col Heydon publickly without any appearance of Partiality and attended Strictly to the orders which he Recd from the Adjutant General

August the 21st 1816 AMASA COWLES JR Capt 5th Co

NORFOLK

[Endorsed] Certificate de Col. Hayden — —

EBENEZER GROSVENER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:50]

POMFRET 22d August 1816

Sir,

In conformity to the directions contained in the Letter of your Excellency of date 13th July, I notified the members of the late 2d Compy 2d Regiment, Mily. Corps that an opportunity was offered them of becoming a new company under officers of their choice and with the same privileges and immunities as

were enjoyed by them while members of the Military Corps — — The very diffuse location of the members of the late company has rendered it difficult to see them *all* personally on this subject nor have I even at this time done it — I have at this time between thirty & forty privates enlisted, and I have every reason to suppose that I shall make out a respectable company considered in point of numbers; and more particularly so in point of military character — — I have sought particularly such men as were actually acquainted with the *practical* use of fire arms; deeming such more especially desirable in a Rifle Corps. — — I have entered upon negotiations with manufacturers of Rifles at Lancaster Penn[a] and at Sutton & Shreusbury, Massachusetts — for the purpose of obtaining the most advantageous terms for the men — — and for procuring the guns of exact uniformity in their most minute parts: so that the smallest parts of any one piece, should occasion require, may be interchangably used in any other piece — — — The uniform of the men when of the Military Corps and under my command was perfect — — They have had the advantage of a tour of 2 months in actual service — they are attached to each other & will probably choose officers whom they will serve with cheerfulness — — I have been this particular in statement to Your Excellency because I consider myself as having done all which I could do toward the accomplishment of an object which I had been led to believe was regarded by my superior officers as desirable — — — yet since that object has not been carried into complete execution I find I am about to be arrested in the performance of it by Militia officers who claim the right of imposing fines on my men until such time as they shall have discharged military Duty in their new capacity — — This, for the reasons which I have been stating to your Excellency we have not yet been able to do — nor shall we be able to do it till late in the season — & before that time, if the matter is to take the course which the Militia officers claim, fines will have been accumulated against each of my men to an amount, not trifling in times like the present — — — — I know not whither there be any thing in our case of which your Excellency can legally take cognizance but

I am very well assured that we have an equitable claim to some relief — we do not wish to evade duty — we wish that each individual, from the time of his enlistment may regard himself as a Rifleman and be preparing himself for the proper discharge of his duty as such — we wish to be exempted from doing duty till we can procure our arms — and prepare ourselves completely — we shall do our quota of duty within the year — tho it may not be in the pleasant month of September — — and, once organized, we certainly shall not shrink from any rigor of discipline to which our brethren of the militia may be subjected If these requests are reasonable — if they are in the power of your Excellency to grant — & if they are granted, we shall be much gratified — whether they are, or not, I shall rest satisfied that the general good is aim'd at, yet I shall feel that the promotion of it will sit rather heavily on us if the facts which I have been thus stating to Your Excellency should be deemed of no avail in our behalf — & shall relinquish the design of forming a Rifle Company in this town with real regret; but without the expectation of seeing any one more willing to enter upon, or more successful in prosecuting the design than I shall have been — I enclose to Your Excellency a copy of the articles under which we have associated — with a list of those who have associated as Privates Since the date of this association we have considered ourselves as Riflemen and have devoted ourselves to preparation for the discharge of our duty as such. — I can forward the original papers should it be required —

I am sorry that I have been led to trouble Your Excellency so much with a subject of this little importance — We should be gratified with an answer from Your Excellency by which to regulate ourselves — — My men will be warned to meet for military duty on the first Monday in September under the Militia officers — —Confiding entirely in the disposition of your Excellency to shew us any accommodation not incompatible with the rights of others, I am, in behalf of the company

Your Excellency's most ob^{t}
& obliged servant
EBEN^{R} GROSVENER

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Eq Sharon C^t Pomfret 22 Aug^t — — —
[Endorsed] Capt. E. Grosvener 22. Aug. 1816 Rec^d 13th Sep^t 1816 answ^d 14th

GEORGE B. HOLT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:51]

LITCHFIELD August 22^d 1816

Sir

By the present organization of the Militia two Brigade Quarter Masters fall within the Limits of the 6th Brigade. Mr. Leavett of Washington, and myself. It is my very anxious wish to be discharged from further service in the Militia, my health is quite frail at best — — My residence between twenty and thirty miles from the Genl who consents to my dismission — If you will be so good Sir as to send me a discharge by the bearer Esqr Swan, next week; you will quite oblige

Your Most Ob^t & very humble
Servt GEO. B. HOLT

His Excellency J. C. SMITH Esqr.
P. S. Enclosed is Genl Birds Recommendation
T^d

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esqr. Sharon
[Endorsed] Charles[sic] B. Holt Esqr requesting a discharge as Supernumerary Q. Master 6. Brigade — — Granted & forwarded by C. Swan Esqr

ENOCH FOOTE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:52]

BRIDGEPORT Augt 22^d 1816 — —

Dear Sir

The object of this Letter is to acquaint your Excellency of the Situation of a young Man in Norwak who holds a Lieu^t Commision in the first Company 34th Reg^t — — by the name of Eli B Benitt — this worthy young man applyed to me in June Last for a discharge he produced to me such ample testimony of

his intire inability to do Military duty — and at that time not being aware that the power of granting discharges was taken from me by the new Law — I granted him a discharge but soon after I had occation to examine the new Law more Critical when I discover[d] I was dispossessed of that power and rested the same in the hands of the Cap[t] general exclusivly until he delegated it to other officrs — — — — —imediatly after I found out my mistake I informed Liu[t] Benitt that his discharge was not Legal and that he must Consider himelf in office &[c] — — Mr Benitt has Called on me with a desire that I Should inform your Excellency of his Situation and desire your Excellency to grant his discharge — I am personaly acquainted with M[r] Benitt and am fully of the oppinion that his Constitution is So feeble and Slender that he will not be able to ever do Military duty again — — —

if your Excellency Should think proper to grant this requst and direct the Same to me it will much oblige a worthy but feeble young man — — —

I reman your Excellencys obe[t] Serv[t]

ENOCH FOOTE

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq[r] Sharon

[Endorsed] Brig[d] Gen[l] Foote — 22. Aug[t] 1816 rec[d] 27th answ[d] 30th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN HUBBARD

[10:53]

SHARON 22. Aug. 1816

D[r] Sir —

In the General order recently issued for the reorganizing of the militia and assigning to the different officers of infantry their respective commands you will perceive your name is omitted —

The high estimation in which I hold your talents & services render it proper that I should briefly state to you the motives for this arrangement —

The law has given to Major Generals alone the power of deciding on appeals from such boards of officers as are authorized

to impose fines for neglect of duty — Hence a due regard to the convenience of our fellow citizens seemed to require that each Major General should reside within the limits of his division — That such was the intent of the law I also infer from the conduct of the General Assembly at the last session — On the resignation of Major Gen[l] Williams that body proceeded to fill the vacancy, altho' there were already three officers of that grade then in service — They could not have adopted this course but upon the idea that actual residence was in their view indispensable — As Major General Cowles is the senior officer of the division wherein you reside, the command of that division necessarily & of right devolved upon him —

I have only to express my regret that the state is thus for the present deprived of your skill & experience as a military officer & to assure you that I am

D[r] Sir with great respect & esteem your ob[t]
& hm. sert —

Major Gen[l] HUBBARD —

[Endorsed] To Major General J. Hubbard — 22. Aug. 1816

DAVID DEMING TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:54]

COLCHESTER August 23rd 1816

Dear Sir

I have conferred with my Colonels upon the subject of a uniform, for the Gen[l] Field, & staff Officers of the Brigade of Artillery, & take the liberty of recommending the following . viz

Brigadier & Staff

Blue Coats without lappels, lined with yellow, a stiff stand up collar of blue, the forebodies trim[d] with three rows of yellow bullet buttons, & blind button holes, long shirts turn'd up with blue, collar ornamented with embroidery, open cuffs trim[d] with buttons & blind button holes, on the extreme of the folds double diamond, a row of buttons upon the inside of each fold, & under each pocket flap.

Buff vest & breeches, Modern Military Hat, Horsemans black top Boots, buff Belts, black leather stocks, swords yellow

mounted, & epaulettes yellow, Saddle, yellow trimmings, housing of leopard skin or mock leopard, the holsters of russet leather covered with leopard skin

The Field Officers & regimental staff are to wear Coats like the Brigadiers white vest & breeches & white plumes their uniform in other respects the same as the Generals — — — The Brigadier will wear a Yellow plume the Brigade Major a blue plume Aid & Quarter Master white —

Will your Excellency have the goodness to make me acquainted with your determination respecting our uniform as soon as convenient

I have the honour to be your excellencies
Ob^{dt} & very humb^{l} Servt
DAVID DEMING

His Excellency JOHN C SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Con, Colchester Augt. 23 —

[Endorsed] Genl D. Deming 23. Aug. 1816 de uniform &^{c} — rec^{d} 29th answ^{d} 31. Aug. 1816

THEODORE PEASE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:55]

John C, , Smith Esq, ,

Sir I understand that I am retained as Adjutant to the 1st Reg^{t} Con^{t} Militia, if so I Beg your Excellency to discharge me from duty as Ensign in the 3^{d} C^{o} 19th Reg^{t} as the distance to do that duty will be Extremely inconvenient being more than Twenty miles from my now place of residence

I am Sir with great Respect
Your most obedient Servt
THEODORE PEASE

HARTFORD 23^{d} Aug, , 1816

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C, , SMITH Esqr Sharon Con.

[Endorsed] Theod. Pease — requesting a discharge &c 23. Aug. 1816 answ^{d} 30th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SELDEN HUNTINGTON

[10:56]

State of Connecticut —

It appearing by an official return made to me that the Second enlisted flank company in the seventh regiment of infantry have pursuant to orders been led to a choice of officers — and that they have elected Selden Huntington their Captain, Chauncey Child their Lieutenant and Gurdon Walkly their Ensign — I do therefore in virtue of authority vested in me for that purpose hereby empower & direct the persons chosen as aforesaid to execute the duties of the offices assigned to them respectively until the rising of the next General Assembly — And the said company are without delay to uniform & equip themselves for service according to law —

Given under my hand 24. Aug. 1816 —

[Endorsed] Order to Capt. Huntington &c 24. Aug. 1816 —

GENERAL ORDERS

[10:57]

State of Connecticut —

— General Orders —

24. August 1816

The Major Generals and Brigadier Generals of Infantry and the Brigadier Generals of Cavalry, Artillery and Riflemen are hereby Authorized to issue the necessary orders for the choice of commission officers whenever vacancies now exist and they shall occur in their several corps & within the limits of respective commands — The same General officers are also hereby impowered to discharge commissioned & staff officers attached to their respective commands; confining themselves as far as may be practicable to the following cases — towit —

1. Where the officer has become permanently unable to execute his duty from bodily infirmity —
2. Where the officer has removed out of the state or to so great a distance from the scene of his duty as to render it

extremely difficult for him to perform it — 3. Where a commissioned officer has been superceded —

It is however to be particularly observed that by the existing law of the state unless the officer applying for a discharge has held his present office five years or has held commissions or warrants as a staff officer ten years, he *cannot* be discharged from the militia — but from office only. Discharges therefore which are to operate as an entire exemption from military duty must specify that one or the other of the above kinds of service has been performed —

By order of the Com. in chief —

[on back of leaf]

SHARON 24. Aug. 1816 —

Dr Sir —

I have only time to forward the foregoing order — which you will please transmit to those Gen[l] officers who are in actual command — I did think with you it would be advisable to confine the power of discharging infantry officers, to Major Generals only — but considering that the Brigadiers of the select corps ought to possess this authority it would have formed an invidious distinction to pass by the Brigadiers of infantry — I believe therefore we must for the present include them in the order —

This moment your favour of the 19th inst. is received — Mrs S. joins me in heartily reciprocating &c —

Sincerely &c —

[Endorsed] Gen[l] order 24. Aug. 1816 de discharges by Gen[l] Officers —

CERTIFICATION OF WILLIAM S. PIERSON

[10:58]

I do hereby certify that Mr Chaincey Steevens of Durham for more than two years has been in an ill state of health, frequently troubled with a pain in his breast and with a diseased stomach and bowels, which have not only for said term rendered him unfit for the performance of military duty; but have also compelled him to forsake shoe-making his contemplated means

of gaining subsistence. Since this period he has never been able to endure the fatigue of any laborious employment, 'tho' he has made faithful experiments to resume his former business, and to commence other avocations which require bodily strength, but with no success. Of late he has turned his attention to study, and intends to obtain a liberal education if his health and pecuniary circumstances permit. As his health is yet unsuitable for military duty, and his calculations such as will before long free him from that duty, even if his health should be restored, it is my opinion that either a discharge for a number of years from the present time, or a final discharge from any farther trouble or vexation as it respects military affairs, would be reasonable.

WILLIAM S. PIERSON Physician
& Surgeon.

August 25th 1816.

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:59]

NORWICH 26th August 1816

My dear sir

By last weeks mail for Litchfield I wrote your excellency and apprized you of my prospects in issuing the Genl of the 15th of this month The great attention paid by Messr Goodwin & Sons (in doing the work left at Hartford & forwarding the same) enabled me to put all the orders into the mail on saturday night — — — — On friday your excellencys favour of the 20th wishing an alteration in the sixth & seventh companies of the 21 regt was handed me by a Colebrook man, living in that part which had been put to do duty with the Hartland Company — — — — The memorial from Colebrook accompanying your letter, conveys different ideas from those communicated to me when at Winsted: I apprehend that the uneasiness did *not* exist in the first instance, as I find by the Messenger, that some of the men in that part of Colebrook put with Hartland have from choice (& by curtesy of their Captain) been permitted to do duty with that part of Hartland to which they were by me

assigned in first formation — — The Field Officers expressed their opinion that it would be Agreeable to the men to be put to the Hartland Company — — — Your Excellency will I presume recollect that Colebrook rec^{d} from Norfolk about the same number which Hartland rec^{d} from Colebrook — — I find by minutes which I read to your excellency, that a difference of opinion between Col^{o} Hayden & two of the soldiers existed respecting the wishes of the men to be put to Hartland — —

The order for the formation had been printed but not distributed, and altho your excellency wished it corrected *if not printed,* I altered the order in the whole number of the printed copies, presuming from your letter, the alteration was desired — — —

It was attended with less trouble than could have been expected in altering the limits of two companies — — by erasing from the 6th and 7th companies the words which *removed them* from Norforlk & *annexed* them to Hartland — — — I have endeavored to cause publicity to be given to the fact that the companies were not by law obliged to train or muster on the first Monday in September — — — I have put into the bundle under cover to General Bird, six copies of the order for your excellency — — — The law for forming and conducting the military force of this state is printing and I expect to forward it to the Brigadiers next week — — — — Did you not forget to authorise Major Generals to grant discharges — —if so & you should issue another order, will it not be expedient to notice the appointment of aides by the Lieu^{t} Governour?

No returns from the Commd^{t} of regiments were rec^{d} in season to fill the companies with names of Officers to take command, where the formation had been varied when at Sharon — — — of course a note at the bottom became necessary — — —

Inclosed is a petition from some persons in Griswold which I forward at the request of the petitioners —

I am very sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency
Governour SMITH

SYLVESTER BULKLEY TO GEORGE W. JEWETT

[10:60]

HADDAM August 26th 1816

Sir,

Mr Clark has made frequent application to me for two or three years past, for advice respecting the difficulties with which he has been troubled more or less during this long period, The difficulty seems to have been the result of over lifting, and In all probability there is now a derangement in the part affected which will always remain As he is now evidently unable to perform military duty, and has at intervals, been unable to perform manual labor, I would recommend him to your notice, as a subject inadequate to discharge the duty of an officer with that promptitude, which on every other respect he would feel proud to perform

I am dear Sir respectfully yours &c
SYLVESTER BULKLEY

[Superscribed] Col GEORGE W JEWETT Esqr Say-Brook

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:61]

MIDDLETOWN Augt 26 — 1816

Sir

Mr Richard Rand was a Member of one of the fire Companies in this town when the law was passed, declaring that persons under the Age of thirty years should be liable to military duty & on the passing of that Law Mr Rand enlisted into the Rifle Company — That Law was soon after repealed as it respected those persons under thirty years of age, who were at the time of passing the first Law members of a fire Company, excepting such as should have *enlisted* into independent Companies. Mr Rand wishes now to return into the fire Company & thinks that as he inlisted under the expectation that he should be compelled to do military duty in some company & as that law was soon

after altered, that the reason of it extends to him & that he ought to be discharged. At his request I have made the foregoing statement — — —

I am Sir with respect
Y^r Excellencys Obed Sert
CH^Y WHITTELSEY

His Excellency
JOHN COTTON SMITH

RICHARD RAND TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:61A]

MIDDLETOWN August 26th 1816 — —

May It please your Excellency

As General Whittelsey has done me the favour of making to your Excellency the above statement I beg leave further to remark that since I have been a subject of Military duty (about 6 years) I have been a member of an Engine C° & should never have thought of leaving it had I not supposed myself compeled to do by the passage of the Law refered to above a part of which has since been repealed so that those persons who belonged to an Engine Company at the passage of the Law may now return to It alth° under 30 Years — provided they have not entered an Enlisted Militia C° — Now I am a member of an Enlisted Company but I am not equiped as such and am from fealings & habit opposed to the services which it envolves and under all the circumstances I pray you Excellency to grant me a discharge: in which case If I understand the Law a right I am at Liberty to return to my former station in the Engine Company. will your Excellency have the goodness to attend to my request & inform me your determination as soon as may be convenient — — —

Wishing your Excellency Prosperity & Health in the concerns both of Soul & Body

I am your Excellency
Ob. servant
RICHARD RAND

[Superscribed] To His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Governour &c Sharon Ct —

[Endorsed] Genl C. Whittelsey — 26. Aug. 1816 recd 30th answd 31st — Rand's case

HENRY SUMMERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:62]

WESTON 26th of August 1816 — —

To His Excellency John Cotton Smith
Captain General of the Militia of the State of Connecticut

Dear Sir, In the reorganization of the Militia of this State it appears that it has become necessary to disband some companies for the enlargement of others. And by a late Law of the State the Commission'd Officers of such Companies as are dissolv'd, are to stand as supernumeraries or shall be entitled to a discharge on Application. And having understood that orders have been issued that all those who wish'd for discharges should make application to the Adjutant General by the 12th of Inst August, but I had no notification of it till too late — I therefore have thought proper to Address Your Excellency and inform you that I am a Lieut. of the 7th Company 28th Regt 4th Brigade which Co. is dissolv'd and a Rifle Co. form'd on the same parade. The Rifle Co. is the one which Col. Abel Hale has assisted and lead to the Choice of Officers which is well known to Your Excellency. I therefore pray Your Excellency to accept this my Application for a discharge from military duty as I have had no notice to make it to the Adjutant General owing to the neglect of my Superiors, if orders have been issued to that effect, in not Notifying me — — — I humbly Solicit Your Excellency to inform me by the returning mail if convenient of the success of my humble petition —

I am with great Esteem
Sir Your Obed'nt & Hum'ble Servt
HENRY SUMMERS Lieut of the
7th Co. 28th Regt 4 Brigade
Connecticut Militia

[Superscribed] To His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Connecticut Huntington August 26th

[Endorsed] Lieut. H. Summers — requesting a discharge — Aug. 1816 See answer intra

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DANIEL RICHARDSON

[10:63]

SHARON 26. August 1816 —

Sir —

The General order for the formation of the militia was issued on the 15th instant and the Adjutant General is now engaged in distributing it — I have since received an application dated the 26th instant signed by Chauncey Ives Reuben Preston, Erastus Gilbert and Asa Gilbert Junr inhabitants of the society of Winsted requesting that they & the families living on what is called *Matt Swamp tier of lots* may be annexed for military purposes to the first society in Barkhamsted, & requesting also that my answer may be communicated to you — — It is thought advisable as a general rule to keep the militia of each society together; but there may be cases in which it would be equally beneficial to the public and more convenient for individuals to do military duty in an adjoining society, and as far as such cases were fully disclosed to me during the late organization they were provided for — I think it highly probable the present case may be of that description, and it is also probable when the system goes into operation other cases of the same kind will occur — After the fall trainings are over we shall be able to ascertain their number; and they can be all included in one General order — To multiply general orders upon this subject you are sensible would beget confusion & uncertainty — I shall direct an inquiry into the particular situation of the present applicants and into the state of the companies in the two societies, and with great cheerfulness I will endeavour to afford the desired relief hoping it may be consistent with the general good — Until this can be accomplished I doubt not the present applicants will

cheerfully & faithfully perform their duty in the society to which they belong — I am sir respectfully

J. C. S —

Capt. DanL Richardson —

PETITION FROM INHABITANTS OF GRISWOLD

[10:64]

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith Esqr
Command in chief Over the Militia of the
State of Connecticut —

The petition of Nehemiah Spencer & others Inhabitants of the Town of Griswold in the County of New London and State of Connect^t humbly Sheweth to your Excellency — — that they have done Military duty in the first Company of the 8th Reg^t of Connecticut Militia, that they Still reside within the former limits of S^d 1st Company — — but by the late reorganishon of the Militia of this State they are set off from the Company to which they formerly belonged and are annexed to the 5th Co — & 18th regiment we now beg leave to State to your Excellency, that the burden of doing Military duty on us will be much greater in the Co. to which we are annex'd than in the Co, to which we formerly belonged we therefore humbly Request your Excellency to take our case into consideration and direct & order that we may Still do Military duty with our former companions which will be according to the late Alteration Filled the 2nd Co. & 18th Reg^t — — this being done by your Excellencies Order we shall consider ourselves as highly favored and humbly trust we shall ever be ready and cheerful in the discharge of Military duty when ever call^d to do it by proper Authority — we further State that the 5th Co. to which we are annex^d will Muster about 120 Officers & Privates and the 2nd Co— to which we wish to belong cannot Muster More than about 30— Officers & Soldiers.

we who have signed this Petition as Inhabitants although not subject to Military duty unite with our Sons & friends in the foregoing petition — —

dated at Griswold this 26th day of August AD 1816 — — —

Inhabitants of the Town
of Griswold not Subject
to Military Duty — — —

SIMON BREWSTER.	NEHEMIAH SPENCER Serg^{t}
REYNOLDS SPENCER.	CHARLES R SPENCER. Music
EBENEZER CLARKE.	DANIEL PRESTON Private
CALEB FREEMAN	TARRINES M DANIELS, Do

The distance for the petitioners to travel is *by them* stated to be equal, whether to the Griswold or Preston companies parade — — — The number of families living within the district petitioning for removal is Nine, as stated to me by Serg^{t} Spencer — — the others declined signing the petition

EBEN : HUNTINGTON

Augt 26th 1816

[Endorsed] — — Griswold — Petition from certain individuals praying to be annexed for military purposes &c &c

MOSES HAYDEN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:65]

August 27th 1816

To His Excellency &c

Sir

Erastus Merells 1st Lieut — in the 12th Comp, , 2^{d} Reg, , of Lt Artillery will leave this State in the course of this Week — — It is the earnest desire of Lieut, , Merells that he may be discharged from Military duty — and George McNary Capt of said 12th Comp requsts that he may (on the recipt of this) receive an order to fill said vacancy

Permit me Sir to obsere that if the above request should be granted —that the Interest of said Comp^{y} would probably be promoted

I am with great regard
Your Excellencys obedient
and very Humble Servant
MOSES HAYDEN

His Ex^{l} JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr
Capt— Genl

[Superscribed] To His Ex[l] JOHN C. SMITH Esq[r] Capt., General State Conn[t] Sharon

[Endorsed] Erastus Merrell's resignation thru' Major Hayden — Order sent 27. Aug. 1816

DECIUS HUMPHREYS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:66]

CANTON August 27th 1816

To his Excellency

Dear Sir

The new arrangement of the Militia having taken place in such manner as to comport with (as I believe) the general good of this part of the community. Our Town is small and is not sufficient for more than one good Infantry Company & half of the Artillery Company which is expected to be raised from its limits. The former location was two Companies yet they were very small when we had any liberty to recruit from them There is a petition in agitation to present to your Excellency to disarrange the present establishment which if done will greatly impede the fondly anticipated support we expected from the new arrangement It is stated in the petition that much the largest proportion of the men belong at the two ends of the Town which is in some measure the case yet as uniform a population as is usual in other towns so in this with regard to meeting at the center of the Town it would not be burdensome as none would have to travel more than 4 miles and a good road It is not from this course that the petition originated nor from the general good of the Militia but the interest of the leading Men at the two ends of the Town which has existed some considerable anxiety I have made enquirey in the other parts of the Reg[t] & find no uneasiness except in the 1st Com[p] from which that part of wintonbury east of the Mountain was set to the 1 Reg[t] & that not strenuous Should your Excellency think proper to seperate the present Company here I am persuaded that it would be attended with uneasiness & would not answer their expectations as the Companies were very small when we had the liberty to reduce them it was done to thirty six in number should the Company continue it is very probable

they would meet alternately towards the two extremes of the Town Your Excellency will pardon me for intruding upon your patience and accept the greatful acknowledgements of Your friend

DECIUS HUMPHREYS

Sir if it is nessasary for me to have an order upon the Q^{t} General for a Harness as their is one wanting to one of our pieces and our Com^{p} now or in one week will be full ( ) [w]ish for an order by the next mail to that effect. There [has ne]ver been any Harness since the Piece came here to it

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Capt. Dec^{s} Humphreys 27. Aug. 1816 answ^{d} 31st

DAVID SMITH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:67]

DURHAM August 28. 1816.

These certify that Chauncey Stevens has lived with me the summer past for the purpose of studying the Latin & Greek languages, his health being such as to prevent his laboring but very little, either at his trade or in the field. He is a professor of religion. & wishes to obtain a collegiate education that he may become a preacher of the gospel. He is destitue of property, & has no one to assist him. He expects to keep school, part of the time, & get along as Providence may direct. It has been the case for several years, that, when obliged to attend military duty, one day's exercise has confined him for several days. But being a federalist & a professor of religion, the Captain is not disposed to show him the least favor. It is therefore hoped that his Excellency the Governer, will consider his case, & free him [from] military duty. — — —

DAVID SMITH pastor of
the Church

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esqr Sharon. Connecticut

[Endorsed] Revd David Smith 28. Aug. 1816 answ^{d} 17. Sept — de sick soldier in Durham —

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:68]

NORWICH 28th Augt 1816

My dear sir

By the mail which arrived here the day before yesterday (the 26) I recd your General Order of the 24th which I have transcribed & forwarded by mail or in other terms put them into the office this day —

What is to be done with those officers who were either not notified, or who omitted to make their election at the formation of companies in my circuit, and are not retained in command & now apply to be discharged — — What is to be done with the supernumerary Cavalry Officers? — — They are not included in the letter of the General Order, to whom I am to give discharges — — — Does your excellency consider me intitled to give discharges from the General Order of the 24th? — — What is the uniform established for flank companies — —I ask this question having my doubts whether the uniform established by Govr Griswold in 1812, & partially modified by your excellency in the same year respecting the head covering of the Infantry enjoins the hat with one side turned up for flank companies or whether they are to wear the round hat with a frontispiece as battalion companies — — — — — —

The foregoing questions are put in consequence of different opinions respecting the hat, & the application of Officers for discharges, some of whom belong to the Cavalry & did not volunteer as horse artillery, and others who did & were not rechosen — — —

I am yours very sincerely
& respectfully — — —
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon Via New Haven

[Endorsed] Adt General 26th & 28th Aug, 1816 recd 6th Septr answd 7th

ELIHU MOORE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:69]

Sir

the Company under my Command is destitute of A Second Lieutenant I hope your — Excellency will See fit to issue an order for filling the vacancy on the 2d day of September Next — I would Beg leave to represent also that My Company is Deficient in point of Number if it is Consistent I Should Be glad of an Order for filling the ranks

the Bearer Mr Jannah B Phelps Can give any information respecting the Situation of the Company you may require

I am very respectfully your Excellencys Obt Sert

ELIHU MOORE Captain
2 Company 6th Regt Cavalry

TORRINGTON August 29th 1816

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Capt. Moore of the Cavalry — 2. Co. 3. Regt Order to him for choice &c 30. Aug. 1816

REMONSTRANCE FROM SIMSBURY

[10:70]

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith Esquire
Captain General & Commander in chief over the
Militia of Connecticut

The Subscribers Inhabitants residing within the limits of the 17th Regt of Militia in said State would represent to your Excellency that in the opinion of these subscribers the late alteration made by your Excellency respecting the local limits of the first Company in said Regt by taking from said Company that portion of said Company lying East of the Mountain in Simsbury & in the parish of Wintonbury, and annexing the same to the first or Hartford Regt will prove detrimental to the Company and Regt. from which they are taken and will be contrary to the feelings and wishes of a considerable proportion of that section of inhabitants thus set off —And as

reasons for their opinion aforesaid they would assign the following (viz)

1st That it will be seen by the late military returns that the 1st Regt in point of numbers is much greater than the 17th — — —

2nd That the Company to which they are annexed previous to said alteration consisted of between 80 & 90 men — — —

3rd That the said first company with the troops so set off annexed to it was one of the smallest companies in said Regt and could not muster its legal compliment of men previous to said alteration

4th That the troops so set off have always heretofore been considered part of the 18th Regt which now is the principal part of the 17th and have uniformly done duty accordingly in said Regt and for very many years were members of said 1st Company — — —

And for the aforesaid reasons we are fully of opinion that said alteration is injurious to said company and Regt and would request your Excellency to reannex said section of inhabitants to said 1st Company & said 17th Regt according to the location of Militia for Connecticut proposed by the Adjutant General —

With due respect your Excellency,s

Obedient & Humble Servts
JESSE P HOLCOMB Major
EZRA ADAMS JR
JAMES CORNISH Capt 1st Company
ASA CORNISH, Liet 1st Company
JONA PETTIBONE JR
SERENO PETTIBONE
HAYNES WOODBRIDGE
B. H. WILCOX
RUBEN TULLER
OLIVER C. PHELPS
AUSTIN PHELPS

We the Subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Simsbury are of opinion that taking the inhabitants, living on the East Side

of the Mountain in s^d^ Simsbury, from the 1st Company of the 17th Regt. will be very injurious to s^d^ Comp^y^ & Reg^t^ —

JOHN BESTOR
NOAH A. PHELPS
CALVIN BARBER
CAMBEL HUMPHRY
MARK HUMPHRY
CAMPBELL HUMPHRY J^R^
WILLIAM MATHER
BENJAMIN ELY.

[Endorsed] Remonstrance of Simsbury against the annexation of certain individuals to Wintonbury — rec^d^ 30. Aug. 1816

PETITION FROM SIMSBURY

[10:71]

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith
Captain General & Commander in chief
of the Militia of Connecticut. — —

The undersigned inhabitants of the town of Simsbury in Hartford Coundy and residing within the limits of the only located Society in said town beg leave to state, that by the late reorganization of the Militia we are annexed to a Company in the East part of the town of Granby. We beg leave to state that we inhabit a narrow section of Country adjoining Granby and extending as far South as the squadron line and West of the great marsh so called in s^d^ Simsbury & adjoining the limits of the North Company & including but four subjects of military duty. To be compelled to perform duty with the Company in Granby will subject the soldier to great travel & inconvenience. We are informed that the Company to which we are annexed includes about Eighty privates & the North Company in s^d^ Simsbury to which we pray to be annexed includes but Fifty one subjects of military duty. The undersigned therefore request your Excellency to grant them relief by annexing said section of Country to said North Company as in duty bound they will ever pray — — dated at SIMSBURY this 27 day of Aug 1816

Ambrose Adams
Ira Clark
Joel Eno J^R
Joab Pinney
Joel Griswold
Abel Adams
William Adams
Joseph Pettibone
Isaac Eno

We the subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Simsbury haveing perused the within Petition, & know the facts, we think it just that it may be granted

Noah A. Phelps
Jeffery O. Phelps
Elisha Phelps
Luke Reed
John Haskell
Calvin Barber
Cambel Humphry
Jon^A Pettibone J^R
Benjamin Ely,
William Mather

[Endorsed] Petition of certain individuals in Simsbury now Set off to Turkey Hills, praying to remain within the first society — — — rec^d 30. Aug. 1816

PETER B. GLEASON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:72]

His Excellency The Commander in Chief

sir,

I cheerfully comply with the request of Capt. Austin Phelps, commanding the *2^d Troop, 1st Reg^t of Cavalry of this State, to recommend him to your Excellency's consideration from further service in the militia. Capt. Phelps has been a meritorious officer — —has served in the grades of a Com-

missioned officer about fifteen years — and is now about forty-five years of age. The length of his services and his time of life, perhaps, entitle him to a discharge from further service

I am sir, very respectfully

Your Excellency's obt. serv^{t} —

PETER B. GLEASON, Lt. Col^{o} Com^{t} 1 Reg. Cavy

His Excellency. Gov. SMITH

* now first troop —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr. Sharon

[Endorsed] Capt. Austin Phelps's resignation — rec^{d} & accepted 30th Aug. 1816— order issued same day — to be discharged after surgeon commissioned —

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:73]

MIDDLETOWN August 30 — 1816

Sir

Yrs of the 27th Ult & 3^{d} inst are before me — I have issued Brigade orders I believe conformably to your orders to me, & a copy of my order is forwarded p^{r} mail. I have received no further information with respect to Rifles — am of opinion that the dimensions formerly given, are as good as any other, perhaps better — I sent a number of question respecting Rifles & Rifle men to the war department Mr Dana who enclosed them for me, had a Letter saying that the head of the ordnance Dep^{t} was absent but that as soon as he returned they should be answered, whether I shall get an anwer untill M^{r} D— — goes to Washington is uncertain. Whenever an Order shall be issued, respecting rifles & accoutrements, it appears to be proper to have directions given respecting the shape & size of Swords — I presume the Cut & thrust or what is called the English pattern sword will be used — for myself I prefer a short but *broad* Cut & thrust & perhaps it would be well to authorize the officers to use shorter Swords, that they have heretofore used.

At the Meeting of the Officers on the 20th I consulted them respecting the Uniform All the Companies composed in whole or in part of the late State Corps were opposed to any alteration in the Uniform, except some few who were willing to lay aside the Cap & take the Hussar jacks Hat such as is worn by the United States Troops. I am fully of the opinion that no alteration ought to be made unless in the Head dress — but am inclined to think it expedient to authorize the new Companies to take the Hat, instead of the Cap. The Cap is fit only for heavy infantry, is heavy & expensive — the Hat is proper for Riflemen — light & costs only about half as much as the Cap. I am persuaded that the Cap must at some future period be laid aside, — by authorizing the new Companies to take the Hat, I think the old ones will in the course of a few years also assume it If it can be done I shall be glad to have Two or four Companies of Grays, there are one or two Companies, which can be immediately filled up, provided they can have a new Uniform, unless they can be allowed an Uniform different from the old state Troops, the Companies cannot be filled up & may as well be abolished — such is the situation of the Company at Hartford — I believe the Regiments may be so arranged that Two or four Comps of Greys may be allowed without detriment perhaps with advantage.

I have led the persons associated in Chatham to a Choice & made return to the Adjt Genl accordg to yr Excys order of the 19th inst — — — I wrote to the Captain of the Saybrook Company but have no answer from him — as soon as he gives notice to the Men shall lead them to a choice. I am with great respect

your Excellencys very
Obedt Sert & friend
Chy Whittelsey

[Superscribed] His Excellency John Cotton Smith Sharon
[Endorsed] Genl Whittelsey 30. Aug. 1816 recd 6. Sept — answd 7th

ZEPHANIAH WILLIAMS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:74]

Woodstock August 30th AD 1816

Sir

Capt. Darius Barlow of said Woodstock having applied to me to recommend his discharge from military duty; having heard his reasons I Judged them sufficient for his immediate discharge and accordingly wrote to Brigadier General Salter recommending the same. who would willingly have discharged him but did not consider himself invested with power to do it. I threfore recommend him to your Excellency considering him a proper subject to be discharged from any further military duty he being incumbered with much town business and having served a reasonable time. If Your Excellency see fit to grant this request I wish you to forward his discharge as soon as may be convenient — —

Yours respectfully

Zephaniah Williams
Liut Col Comdt
11th Regt

To his Excellency
John C. Smith Esqr

[Superscribed] To his Excellency John C. Smith Esqr Sharon Connecticut Woodstock Ct. Sept. 5th 1816

[Endorsed] Col. Z. Williams — (Woodstock) — 30. Aug. — recd 26. Sept. !!! answd 28th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO STEPHEN F. PALMER

[10:75]

Sharon 31. Aug. 1816 —

Sir —

Since writing you on the 17th instant I have received a letter from Gen1 Deming expressing the wishes of himself & his field officers respecting their uniform — Having yeilded to their united request for a coat without collar cuffs or facings

of a different colour, I feel myself bound to grant you & your staff the same indulgence if you desire it — I avail myself therefore of the earliest opportunity to give you this information & to remove the restraint which you may have felt in this respect from the suggestions contained in my last — I regret that there has not been more time allowed us to compare our ideas upon this subject — — You will be pleased to forward me a minute description of your dress when prepared — —

I am Sir your ob^{t} & hm. sr^{t}

Genl Palmer — —

[Endorsed] To Genl Palmer de uniform 31. Aug. 1816 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO W. W. ELLSWORTH

[10:76]

Sharon 31. Aug. 1816

Sir —

I have received your letter of the 27th informing me that I am elected president of the "Connecticut Asylum for the education & instruction of Deaf & Dumb persons" —

You will be pleased Sir to communicate to the board of Managers my thanks for the honour conferred upon me with the assurance of my earnest endeavours to promote the benevolent objects of the institution —

I am Sir respectfully your
obedient & humble servant

W. W. Ellsworth Esqr

[Endorsed] To W. W. Ellsworth Esq. signifying my acceptance of office of President Con As. Deaf & Dumb

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[10:77]

31. Aug. 1816

Dr Sir

When Supernumary officers, ascertained to be such, apply for discharges, you will please to consider them as coming

within the scope of the Gen[l] order of the 15th and forward their discharges in like manner — altho' they may have been somewhat out spoken in the application

I have referred one or two of this description to you already —

In haste I am D[r] sir
Sincerely yours

P. S. I do not perceive indeed that we can limit *in point of time* discharges to real Supernumerary officers

Gen[l] HUNTINGTON

[Endorsed] To Adj[t] Genl 31. Aug. 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

[10:78]

SHARON 31st Aug. 1816 —

D[r] Sir

I have just received your letter with that of M[r] Rand's subjoined to it under date of 26th inst —

Be pleased to inform M[r] Rand that with every disposition to oblige him I entertain very serious doubts whether the law has placed it in my power —

My letter of the 27th July last containing instructions relative to the rifle corps has not been acknowledged — You will perceive however by the Gen[l] order of the 15th instant I have taken it for granted those instructions were received — — I doubt not a satisfactory report of the manner in which they have been executed will shortly be made —

Orders are issued to organize a company of Riflemen at Groton and also at Newtown Those with the two formed by yourself pursuant to orders by the hand of Col. White, will make an addition of four companies the present season — At the request of Capt. Grovesnor I sometime since authorized a company of riflement to be raised in Pomfret — But the association has not yet been presented —

I am D[r] Sir your ob[t] &
hm. Ser[t] —

Gen[l] WHITTELSEY —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO THEODORE PEASE

[10:79]

SHARON 31. Aug. 1816 —

Sir

I have just received your letter of the 23. instant — The Major Gen^{ls} & Brigadier Gen^{ls} are authorized by an order recently issued to dismiss officers & fill vacancies within their respective divisions & brigades under certain limitations —

I should feel it improper to grant your request without issuing an order to fill the vacancy — This is not in my power at present as the corrected list of officers assigned to the command of companies &^{c} is in the hands of the printer for publication — Under these circumstances I must refer you to the Brigadier General —

I am Sir your ob^{t} Sr^{t}

Mr PEASE —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO HENRY SUMMERS

[10:80]

SHARON 31. Aug. 1816

Sir —

If in consequence of the new arrangement of the militia you are supernumerary officer, there is no difficulty in obtaining your discharge — You may still send to the Ad. Genl your election in writing to retire from office and a discharge will be forwarded to you — I have considered it most advisable to grant discharges to Supernumerary officers through the Adjutant General only in as much as all the documents relating to the subject are deposited in his office —

I am Sir your ob. Ser^{t}

Mr HENRY SUMMERS —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ENOCH FOOTE

[10:81]

SHARON 31st 1816

Dr Sir

Your letter of the 22nd instant is received — I think you will

find on examining the list of officers Subjoined to the Gen[l] orders of the 15th instant, that M[r] Eli B. Bennett is not retained as an officer under the new arrangement — If he is thus a supernumerary officer he can send to the Adj[t] Gen[l] his election in writing to retire from office and receive a discharge — Should it however appear that he *is* retained, it will be in your power to afford him relief according to the circumstances of his case, agreeably to the Gen[l] order under date of the 24th instant — which either has been already will be very shortly transmitted to you by the Adjutant General — —

I am D[r] Sir very sincerely
your Ob[t] Sr[t]
J. C. S —

B. Gen[l] Foote — —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DAVID DEMING

[10:82]

Sharon 31. Aug. 1816

D[r] Sir —

Your letter of the 23rd instant is received —

I shall make no objection to the uniform proposed for the Gen[l] field & staff officers of Artillery — You do not mention the colour either of the buttons or epaulettes for the field officers — but I take it for granted they are to be white — The Gen[l] order on this subject will be delayed until the uniforms of some of the other corps can also be ascertained when one order may embrace the whole — In the mean time the uniform you recommend for your corps may be considered as established — I ought however to observe that I entertain some doubts whether the caparison of your horses is referred by the act to the decision of the commander in chief

I am D[r] Sir with sincere
regard your ob[t] sr[t]

Gen[l] Deming —

JOSEPH CAMP TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:83]

WETHERSFIELD 2nd Sept. 1816

By Your Excellency's late order, dividing, arranging, and forming the Militia, agreeable to the Act of the General Assembly of Oct. last; I am assigned to enlist and command a flank Company in the sixth Reg^{t} of infantry; that I may act understandingly, I wish Your Excellency to answer me the following questions, upon which, I find, there is a diversity of opinion. — —

1st Whether I am to enlist non-commissioned Officers as such, or am to enlist all as privates? — — — — — —

2nd If I am to enlist them as such, whether or not I am to enlist more than the law requires to a Co., in case they should offer, as they probably will, there being twelve of each, that is, twelve Serjt^{s} and twelve Corporals in the Co. from which I probably shall obtain the most to enlist. — —

3rd If I am to enlist them as such, and can enlist more than the law requires to a Co. how am I dispose of them?

If the company can be allowed any indulgence in the choice of a uniform, wish Your Excellency to inform me to what extent they may be gratified.

If the place or places of parade for s^{d} Co. are not already established, I think that much good may result from Your Excellency's establishing the first and second Societies in Wethersfield alternately, as the places for s^{d} Co. to meet to do ordinary Company duty; as the Co. will be filled principally, if not entirely from those two Societies, and probably about an equal number from each. — — — —

Any instructions relative to my duty will be very gratefully rec^{d} by Your Excellency,s ob^{t} serv^{t}

JOSEPH CAMP

His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esqr

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esqr Sharon

[Endorsed] Capt. Jos. Camp Wethersfield — 2. Sept. rec^{d} 6th answ^{d} 7th 1816

HERMON HINE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:84]

This may certify that Liu^{t} Thomas N. Clark has served in the Company of Artillery a long time and has once been discharg^{d} by Genl Bird as he supposed, but now finds that Genl Bird had no authority to discharge any officer. I would therefore recommend him to your Excellency to be discharg^{d} from military duty — he is first Liu^{t} of the Artillery company formerly annex^{d} to the 29th Reg^{t}

To his Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esqr

Capt HERMON HINE

WASHINGTON Sep^{tr} 2^{d} 1816 —

[Endorsed] Capt. H. Hine de Lt Clark of the Artillery — — dismissed *from office only* — order to fill vacancy issued 17th Sept. 1816 —

GILBERT TWICHELL AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:85]

OXFORD Sept 2^{d} 1816 — — —

His Excellency John C. Smith

sir

Maj^{r} Gideon Riggs late of the 32^{d} but now of the 2^{d} Reg^{t} C^{t} M—.^{a} recd a General order from the Adj. Genl dated the 17 August last Offering to the C^{o} of which the undersigned compose a part of the Officers the priveledge of assosiating & forming an Indepentant Rifle C^{o} The undersigned haveing so recently rec^{d} the above information from Maj^{r} Riggs to assosiate & form the C^{o} if they the C^{o} should chose That they have not had time to do it by the present mail The articles however will be duly forwarded by the next —

You sir will permit us to state that the C^{o} to which we belong has its local limits in the west part of the Town of Oxford in the Parish of Quakers Farm, This C^{o} had its origin in a feud or

broil that existed between the members of it & the C° to which they then were and are now as they understand to be annexed to wit the 6th C° 2d Regt the limits of which is in the east part of Oxford — The same local causes do now & proberbly allways will exist that produced the original seperation — No harmony or peace will proberly ever exist between them if they be again united — We are authorised to state to your Excellency that there are now a sufficient number of subjects of military duty within the present limits of the two Cos in the Town of Oxford to form two full Cos under the present establishment The Quaker Farm C° is respectable in point of numbers though not as large as the other

We venture to say however that all those who compose the Quakers Farm C° and all within its limits would with alacraty form themselves into a Rifle C° rather than be compelled to join those with whom they have here to fore been unable to live in peace —

The C° to which the Quaker Farm C° is to be annexed (if they are not formed into a Rifle C°) have now exclusive of the Farm C° 120-Members manny more might it is believed be called in — — If a Rifle C° as wished should be established with the power of enlisting within the Town of Oxford or the limits of the present two Cos it is believed that two full Cos would be formed under the present system — — The Quaker Farm C° will therefore in persuance of the office of the Adj Genl proceed to assosiate as therein directed, and forward the same by the next,s week mail — — — —

Your Excellency will be pleased to accept as an apology for this letter the anxiety that the Quakers Farm C° feel on this subject and a fear that by delaying untill the articles of Assosiation might be signed the promised advantage might be lost

Permit us to subscribe your Excellencys

Obed[ient] & humble

Servants

GILBERT TWICHELL Cap't

THEODORE SMITH Lieut

AMBROSE OSBORN Ensign

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon Southbury C^t Sepr 3^d

[Endorsed] Capt. Twichell Oxford — 2. Sept. 1816 re^d 6th answ^d 7th Gilbert Twichell —

HORACE CANDEE AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:86]

OXFORD 2^d September 1816

To John Cotton Smith Esq Capt Gen
of the Militia of the State of Connecticut
Sir

Perhaps an apology ought to be made by us for so frequently Petitioning your Excellency respecting the Militia Compy of the town of Oxford But the good of the Militia which we trust your Excellency has at heart we believe will be a sufficient one An order from the adjutant Gen arrivd here last week by which the Company in the west Part of this Place was Disbanded with a permission to form themselves into a volunteer Rifle Company (Said Company have now on their roll about 80 privates —) with Power to recruit in any Part of the location of this Company we would inform your Excellency that at their meeting to day they almost unanimously voted to accept the Proposal of the Adj^t General

we would further inform your Excellency that the Company in the East Part of the town of Oxford which is the 6th in the 2^d Reg^t by the new arrangement Consists of about 60 or 70 Men & that they are Principally young men and in uniform almost with out exception and are remarkably united as a company have no difficulty in the Choice of officers nor in the Place of Parade — Further we would state that the Company on the west side of the Place was once a part of this Company & that there was always a contention with them and this Part of the Place as well Civil as Military We would state to your Excellency that we have no objection to the Conntution [sic] of a Rifle Company in that Part of the Place but we wish they be forbidden to come within the limit of our beat for their recruits as

we think (& do not stand alone in the belief) that any division of this Company or Connection with that would be a great injury to both

We are your Excellencys humble Servants
HORACE CANDEE Capt
CHAUNCEY M HATCH Lieut
DIVINE CHATFIELD Ensn

P S

In behalf of the Company we Command we thank your Excellency for the relief given & answer to our petition to annex us to another Regt which a present is Perfectly to the satisfaction of all concern,d

HORACE CANDEE Capt
CHAUNCEY M HATCH Lieut
DIVINE CHATFIELD E^{n}

[Superscribed] JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Capt General Con Mil Sharon Oxford 3^{d} May

[Endorsed] Capt. H. Candee (Oxford) 2. Sept. 1816 rec^{d} 6th answ^{d} 7th

JOHN L. TOMLINSON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:87]

DERBY 5th September 1816

His Excellency John Cotton Smith
Commander in Chief &c
Sir

The 12th Company 1st Reg^{t} Light Artillery at present under my command wants Eighteen privates to complete the number authorized by Law. I beg permission from your Excellency to enlist them from the 2nd 4th & 7th Companies of the 2nd Reg^{t} and the 7th & 8th Companies of the 4th Reg^{t} Infantry. The Population liable to duty in this town is divided between the 4th & 7th Companies above mentioned which are probably full, perhaps have more than 64 Privates each. By the new organization a Company of Infantry & Capt. Humphrey's Company of Cavalry are discontinued at Humphreysville. I trust at any rate it will be deemed equitable, if all cannot be full, that

the Artillery may recruit so far as that its number shall bear the same ratio to 44 as the companies of Infantry do to sixty four. I beg leave to solicit your Excellency^{s} early attention to this subject, that the advantage of recruiting this season may not be lost. I have been unable to ascertain the precise numbers on the Rolls of the Companies of Infantry from which I ask leave to enlist, as they have not yet been mustered under the new organization.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency^{s} very Obed^{t} & faithf^{l} Servt
JOHN L TOMLINSON
Lieu^{t} Commanding 12th Comp^{y} 1st Reg^{t}
Light Artillery

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Commander in Chief Sharon

[Endorsed] Lt Tomlinson 12 Co. 1. Reg^{t} of Lt Artillery — de recruits — 5. Sept. 1816 answ^{d} 21st — —

LINIUS SMITH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:88]

LITCHFIELD 5th Sep^{t} 1816

His Excellency John C, Smith
sir,

The bearer Mr Norris B. Barber has called upon me, & requested I would recommend him to Your Excellency, for a discharge from Military duty. Mr Barber is an infirm man & was recommended by Capt Waugh, as a proper subject for a discharge some time since, I cheerfully recommend him to Your Excellency for a discharge, believing he comes fairly within that rule which exempts a part of our Citizens from Military duty,

I am your Excellencys
Most O^{t} S^{t}
LINIUS SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esqr Sharon

[Endorsed] Norris B. Barber's case — — Col. L. Smith's certificate — See intra

CERTIFICATES

[10:89]

Mr Norris B. Barber has a rupture which disenables him from hard labour It is my opinion he is a fit subject to be excused thro, the fall trainings

SAM^L BUEL Surg^n 17th Reg^t Militia

Sep^t 7th 1812

[10:90]

Norris B. Barber of the 4th Company 1st Reg^t State Corps is attended with a Rupture, which in my opinion renders unfit to perform the Duties of a Soldier

JOHN R WATROUS, Surgeon
to 1^d Reg^t — — — — —

Augt 8th 1813

[10:91]

This may Certify that Norris Barber is discharged from Military duty on account of infirmities

LITCHFIELD Jany 4th 1810

JAMES MARSH 2nd Lieu^t
Co^l Commd^t 17 Reg^t
Militia

[10:92]

LITCHFIELD Decr 8th 1808

This certifies that I have examined Norris Barber and find he has a Rupture, which by Law is cause sufficient to exempt him from Military duty while in this situation.

ABEL CATLIN Reg^t Surgeon

dated again ABEL CATLIN R. S.

Decr 8th 1809 —

[10:93]

Norris B Barbor of the 4th Comp^y 1st Reg^t State troops is dis-

charged from this Tour of Duty and is permitted to return home

SAMUEL WAUGH Capt 4th Comp^{y}

1st Reg^{t} State Corps

Dated at NEW LONDON the 8th of August 1813

[Endorsed] Norris B. Barber's case — — Order issued 20. Sept. 1816 excusing him from military duty until further order —

STEPHEN F. PALMER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:94]

MILFORD 6th Sep^{t} 1816

Sir

your Excellenceys Communication of the 31st August last came safe to hand In which you have the goodness to offer the privilege to the Brigade officers of Cavalry of Uniforming themselves in a Coat without Facing of a different Colour which privilege I with gratitude acknowledge. Yet Sir there is an inconvenience attending it at this time, after receiving your Excellencies Communication of the 17th August Last from the Idears[sic] therein contained the Brigade officers adopted the Uniform of officers of Like Grade in the Infantry I E a Blue Coat full faced with Buff. It will be very Inconvenient to alter them previous to our reviews, If it be compatible with the Views of your Excellency to defer Issuing a General Order directing the Unform of Brigade officers of Cavalry and Hors[sic] Artillery untill after the reviews are past for this year before another year I will with pleasure conform to whatever your Excellency shall please direct —

I am Sir with Respect Your Humble Servant

STEPHEN F. PALMER

His Excellency

J C SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN. C. SMITH, Esq. Sharon

[Endorsed] Genl S. F. Palmer 6 Sept. 1816

PETITION FROM ROXBURY

[10:95]

To his Excellency John C Smith Esqr commander in chief in and over the State of Connect[t] *of the Military force* — The Petition of the subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Roxbury humbly sheweth that the Light Infantry company in s[d] Roxbury was established more than 20 years since, and at the Same session of the Legislature the other Light Infantry company at Woodbury was formed and the grant made so that in point of rank the two companies were equal, which unfortunately occasioned a wrangle between the two companies, and at the time the law was enacted new organizing the militia of this state, the company at s[d] Woodbury anxious to have their company stand, improperly procured individuals to represent by subscription to your Excellency or the Adjutant Gen[l] that our Company should be disbanded and this unknown to any of the Company except our Captain who was willing & anxious to procure a discharge even at the expence and mortification of your petitioners as well as the Inhabitants of the Town generally, and at the time the adjutant Gen[l] was in Woodbury for the purpose of forming the several Regt[s] & Companies he informed s[d] company that they could enlist into the Company at s[d] Woodbury or Southbury, which offer your petitioners considered, unreasonable and arbitrary in the Adjutant Gen[l] and which your petitioners could not feel satisfied to accept, for this company has ever been thought to be better equipp[d] in every point of view than the company at Woodbury to which we were offered to be joined, and which causes so much dissatisfaction in the company, and your petitioners are individually unwilling to do duty in any other way or manner than in their company, unless the whole company is discharged by such board as s[d] company was organized, or your Excellency shall direct, and order previous to all the afores[d] the Captain of our Company put the vote, whether they were willing to be disbanded & without an exception the company voted not to be disband, & that they were attached to their officers, well equipped & many of them newly dressed in the

best uniform, and feel unable to be at the expence of enlisting into any other Company and procuring a new uniform as would be necessary, Now your petitioners would pray your Excellency to reinstate s^d^ Company or in some other proper way grant your petitioners relief as in duty bound will ever pray

Dated Roxbury Septr 6th 1816 — — — —

Philo Leavenworth — Serg^t^
Eli Curtiss Serg^t^
Lagrand Sherman Corp^l^
Wait Leavenworth Corp^l^
Lorin Parmle Corpral
Eben Mallory
David Youngs
Curtis Warner Corp^l^
Almarene Masters
Heman Beardslee
Truman Booth
Truman Young
Henry R Gurlick
Harry W Castle
Daniel F Bennitt
Benjamin Beardslee
Jonathan Beardslee
Saul Hurlbut
Harry Griswould
Trumon Leavenworth
William Isbel
Morgan Thomas
Truman Warner
Charles Patterson
Elisha Bailey
David Gillet J^R^
Joseph W Fuller
Daniel Gillett
Nathan G Sherman
Lanson Ponrus[?]
Ezack Warner

[Superscribed] To his Excellency Govr Jno C Smith Esqr The

Petition of the 1st Company of Light Infant 13th Regt 8th Brigade — —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO GILBERT TWICHELL AND OTHERS

[10:96]

SHARON 7. Sept. 1816

Gentlemen

Your communication under date of the 2nd instant is received —

The new arrangement would admit of but one located company in Oxford and its limits must of course be spread over the town — At the same time as there appeared to be a surplus number of men I thought it advisable to authorize a company of riflemen to be raised in the hope that a parade would then be preserved in each of the two sections of the town and a relation is still maintained between those who have been accustomed to do their military duty together — In forming your association for a company of riflemen it is highly important to keep these ends in view and I am happy to perceive that you entertain the same impressions — It is desirable that those who have heretofore belonged to your company should join the association as riflemen — those who decline must of necessity fall within the beat of the located company —

The General order points out the mode of recruiting all enlisted companies — Should further regulations be necessary they will be prescribed so as to reach the exigency of any particular case —

I shall receive your association with pleasure & will lose no time in issuing the proper order for carrying it into effect —

I am Gentlemen respectfully
Your obt Sert —

Capt. TWICHELL
Lieut. SMITH
Ensign OSBORN —
[Endorsed] To Capt. Twichell

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[10:97]

SHARON 6. Sept. 1816

Dr Sir

Your favours of the 26th & 28th ulto — did not reach me until this day — The 6 copies of General Orders arrived on the 2nd instant — They are well printed — and assuredly nothing could exceed the dispatch with which they have been prepared and distributed — I anxiously hope the labour will not be in vain —

I wrote you on the 30th august relative to the discharge of Supernumerary officers — The letter I trust will form a satisfactory reply to your query upon that point — Cavalry officers are undoubtedly included —

As to the uniform of the newly formed flank companies I believe that Govr Griswold's order which made no discrimination between battalion & flank companies with my amendment must be considered as settling it — Those flank companies you will remember which had already been furnished with uniforms however diversified, were allowed to retain them — Such is the impression But I really have not time at the present moment to satisfy myself wholly upon this subject —

The Genl order of the 24th Aug. limited the right of discharging to the General Officers in *Active command.* This seemed to be necessary otherwise the Supernumerary officers of those grades might have exercised the power — a course which could hardly be justified — Aiming at this object, it is probable the terms of the restriction may be so broad as to extend to yourself also — Let me know therefore whether you feel desirous of taking that trouble — if so I can truly say there is no officer in the state to whom I think the authority can be more safely confided —

You will be pleased to announce in usual form the appointment of the Lieut. Governour's Aids — You have his Honour's letter containing their names —

The petition from certain individuals in Griswold with two

or three others of a similar nature will be taken with me to N. Haven when the legislature meet — — The facts can be better ascertained then — I think it probable we shall find it reasonable & proper in some cases to relieve applicants of this description — It will be best however to wait 'till they are all presented — so that one order may embrace them or such of them at least as merit relief —

I enclose the request of one styling himself a supernumerary officer for a discharge — What office he holds does not appear —

Present our sincere regards to Mrs H. & family

& believe me Dr Sir your obt & hm. Srt

Major Genl HUNTINGTON

Ad. Genl —

N. B. Should there be any considerable doubt respecting the uniform of the flank companies perhaps we had best post pone the subject for further reflection — Any definitive order respecting it would hardly be carried in to effect the present Season — — —

When the order for the choice of officers in the Rifle company at Groton shall be returned to you, be pleased to send the names of the officers chosen to Genl Whittelsey — I hear nothing further of a rifle company in Pomfret —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

[10:98]

SHARON 7 Sept. 1816

Dr Sir

Your letter of the 30th ult° accompanied by a copy of your brigade order arrived yesterday evening —

The order is very much as it should be —

I propose to issue no particular instructions respecting rifles until the next session of the legislature — or at least until I shall have the pleasure of an interview with you —

Your wishes & those of your officers relative to the fashion of your swords will be readily complied with —

If a number of companies sufficient to form a regiment or even a battalion & favourably situated for that purpose are desirous of a gray uniform with the Hussar hat you mention I shall be disposed to gratify them — You are already apprized of my promise to the companies formed from the late state troops — Good faith requires a strict fulfilment of it — Without that encouragement there woud not at this time have been more than five companies in the corps —

The *Sixteenth* company is now forming in Oxford — We may possibly stop at that number which on the whole will do very well — In that case four companies will suffice for a battalion — See therefore whether you can get *four* contiguous companies willing to be clad in grey and if so send me a particular description of the proposed dress —

Be pleased to present my best regards to Mr Dana who I know feels a deep interest in the success of our military arrangements —

& believe me Dr Sir your friend & ser^t^

[Endorsed] To Genl Whittelsey —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO HORACE CANDEE

[10:99]

SHARON 7. Sept. 1816

Sir,

I have received the communication signed by yourself & the other commissioned officers of the 6th comp. 2 Regt. — dated the 2nd instant —

The 6th company, as you will see by the late General Order, includes the whole town of Oxford within its beat — the new arrangement rendering it impracticable to allow more than one located company to that town — But as there appeared to be a surplus number of men it was thought best to authorize a company of riflemen to be raised by enlistment — and I am happy to perceive that the proposition is accepted — The Association for a rifle company it seems by your letter is formed in that part of the town which best accommodates the views of

all parties — and it is probable there will always be a supply of recruits in the same quarter — At any rate your company, by the Gen[l] order, cannot be reduced in consequence of enlistments into other corps, below its full complement of men — so that you will be safe I trust from encroachment — Should difficulties hereafter arise other regulations may be adopted — To preserve the peace of the town & at the same time to promote a laudable spirit of ambition in its militia are objects of the first importance & I doubt not will in the end be fully accomplished —

With my best wishes for the prosperity of the
company under your command I am Sir
Your ob[t] Ser[t]

J. C. S —

Capt Horace Candee — Oxford —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOSEPH CAMP

[10:100]

Sharon 7. Sept. 1816

Sir

In answer to your letter of the 2nd instant which is just received I would observe —

1. It will be prudent in my opinion to allow your men to choose their noncommissioned officers —
2. The usual complement only of noncommissioned officers can be allowed to an enlisted company — A greater number is permitted when there is a consolidation of battalion companies but not otherwise —
3. I find considerable doubts are entertained whether the uniform of the newly-raised flank companies is provided for by the General Orders heretofore issued — An explanatory order will therefore be made in relation to this object — but probably not in season for the trainings this autumn — I will receive with pleasure any suggestions you may wish to make on the subject —
4. Your proposition respecting the alternate parade of your company in the two societies appears to me under present

circumstances to be reasonable & proper — You may therefore pursue that course until further orders — —

With my best wishes for your success I am Sir
your obt Sert

[Endorsed] To Capt. Camp

PHINEHAS SMITH AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:101]

To his Excellency John C Smith Esqr
Sir,

The first company of Light Infantry in the 13th Regt has by the Adjutant Genl been annexed to the light Infantry Company in Wood bury and officers discharged from the Company, and that unknown to the Company except the Captain, which the company deem as oppressive, for many of them will be obliged to travel 8, 10 & 12 miles to do duty at Woodbury so that not only the Company but many of the other Inhabitants of Roxbury are dissatisfied with the measures, and beg your Excellency to grant them some relief

Phineahs Smith
Eben Burritt
Isaac B Hawley

Roxbury Septr 9th 1816
[Superscribed] Govr Jno C, Smith Shaaron
[Endorsed] Roxbury Lt Infantry Phins Smith Esqr et al. letter —

JOSEPH TALCOTT, JR. TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:102]

Coventry Sept 9th 1816

Sir — —

The Company under my command consists of more than forty men and is almost destitute of officers — —

I desire that your Excellency would send orders as soon as practicable, to lead sd company to the choice of a Captain in my room, and to fill vacancies — — My infirmeties are such as to

render it necessary that some appointments be made immediately to keep up discipline in the Company

With great esteem
I am Sir
Your ob^{t} — Servant
JOSEPH TALCOTT JR. Com'^{g}
Rifle Company

His Ex^{l} J. C-SMITH Esqr

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esq. Sharon C^{t}

[Endorsed] Capt. Jos. Talcott Jr. (Riflemen) — 9. Sept. 1816 rec^{d} in my absence — answ^{d} 16th & order sent --

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:103]

NORWICH 10 Septr 1816

My dear sir

In assigning officers to take the command of the 4th company in the 8th reg^{t} John Tillinghast is retained as Lieutenant who now informs me that I was misinformed respecting his rank; that Caleb Potter the senior Lieutenant wished to be continued in service and John Tillinghast wished to be dismissed — — I inclose to your Excellency their certificate — — — —

I am very sincerely yours,
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

Governour SMITH

[Endorsed] Ad. Genl Huntington 10. Sept. 1816 answ^{d} 18th de Lieutenants — —Voluntown —

ASSOCIATION (RIFLEMEN) IN WESTON

[10:104]

To His Excellency John Cotton Smith, Captain General state of Connecticut — —

We the Subscribers do hereby form ourselves into an asso-

ciation, & humbly pray your Excellency to establish us as a Rifle Company, Agreeably to a late Act of the General Assembly — & your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray WESTON Septr 11th 1816

1 ELIHU TAYLOR
2 BRADLEY TREADWELL
3 BENJAMIN BEERS
4 BURTON H BEERS
5 JOSEPH B HALL
6 DAVID BALDWIN
7 NATHANIEL SILLEMAN
8 ISAAC SHERWOOD
9 SAMUEL L CORNING
10 ANSON WHEELER
11 IRA BALDWIN
12 ROSWELL NICHOLS
13 ISAAC WHITEHEAD
14 EBENEZER G HALL
15 LEVI ROBERTSON Redding
16 ELI ADAMS
17 MOSES H STAPLES
18 CYRUS W BURTON
19 WILLIS WAKEMAN Green
20 DANIEL JACKSON
21 URI BRADLEY
22 LEWIS HALL
23 JAMES TYRRELL
24 JAMES PRINCE
25 DANIEL B SHERWOOD
26 EBENEZER HAWKINS
27 NATHANIEL HUBBELL
28 CYRUS BEARDSLEE
29 SHERWOOD LYON
30 WILLIAM SQUIRE
31 JONATHAN GOULD Green
32 OLIVER BEERS
33 DANIEL SILLEMAN
34 ALBA PATCHIN
35 GREGORY SEELEY
36 ISAAC SILLEMAN Green
37 ABIJAH SILLIMAN do
38 SAMUEL WILSON 3d do
39 LYMAN WHITEHEAD
40 ISAAC HUBBELL
41 WALKER LYON
42 BURR S WHEELER
43 WM CORNING
44 WM ROBERT Trumbull
45 JOHN TENNEY JUN
46 OBEDIAH ANDREWS
47 DANIEL SAMMONS
48 JOHN BENNITT

[Superscribed] *Petition*

[Endorsed] N° 18. Association (Riflemen) in *Weston* (north fairfield society) — Recd and accepted 24th September 1816 — J. C. Smith — Presented by Col. Abel Hall & an order directed to him of this date to lead to a choice — Impended by a subsequent order, in consequence of a remonstrance &c

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER GROSVENOR

[10:105]

SHARON 14. Sept. 1816 —

Sir

I have this moment returned from New Haven and find on my arrival your letter of the *22nd August last* which it appears did not reach this place until yesterday — The cause of such an unexampled delay in the mail is wholly beyond my comprehension — I regret it the more as I fear the difficulties you apprehend may possibly arise — The proper mode of obviating those difficulties would have been for the officers to have volunteered with the men — in which event they would have been accepted in their organized state.

Indeed I infer from your letter that you consider yourself their commandant: But as you have not placed your name as such upon the Association I know no other course than to forward enclose an order for the choice of officers —

In my opinion the Associates under the peculiar circumstances of the case ought not to be called upon by the officers of the Infantry to perform military duty in a located company — Had the mail been faithful to its trust they would have been organized at a much earlier day — —

In haste I am Sir your
obt & hm. Servt — —

Capt. E. GROVESNOR —

N. B. An order will be issued in October directing the model of the Rifle — The Associates will do well not to purchase their rifles until that time —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[10:106]

SHARON 16. Sept. 1816 —

Dr Sir —

Your letter of the 10th instant is received — It was unnecessary

to forward the original certificate of the two Lieutenants in Voluntown inasmuch as it is a document which should remain in your office — You might have corrected a mistake of this nature without applying to me, but I am sensible military gentlemen are apt to err if they err at all, on *the safe side* — You will be pleased to restore Lieut. Potter to his rank & command conformably to the statement, of the truth of which I suppose there can be no doubt — — The certificate is enclosed —

I am Dr Sir sincerely your
obt Set

Genl HUNTINGTON — Ad. Genl

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO THOMAS N. CLARK

[10:107]

SHARON 17. Sept. 1816

Sir —

I avail myself of the earliest opportunity since my return from N. Haven to grant the request you left with my son—

You will seperate the foregoing order from this letter & deliver it to Capt. Hine —

I am enabled only to dismiss you *from office* as you have not held commission the length of time required by law to entitle you to a *total discharge from the militia* But whilst your disability continues there can be no propriety nor legality in calling upon you to perform military duty —

I am Sir your obt Sert

Lieut. ThoS N. CLARK —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOSEPH TALCOTT, JR.

[10:108]

SHARON 16. Sept. 1816

Sir

Your letter of the 9th instant arrived here during my absence at New Haven — I avail myself of the earliest mail since my return to forward the foregoing order —

There came enclosed in your letter an application which you do not explain and which I find it somewhat difficult to understand — It is signed by eleven individuals styling themselves members of the late military corps & requesting to be accepted & incorporated into Riflemen — As they cannot expect to be formed into a seperate company, I presume it is their wish to be connected with your company which is not yet full — If this is their desire I readily assent to it — The law has expressly provided that *any part* of the late State troops may be received into either of the select corps — And accordingly I have hitherto permitted it to be done whenever requested —

I am Sir with sincere regard your
ob^{t} Ser^{t}

Capt. Joseph Talcott J^{R} —

N. B. The foregoing order may be seperated from this letter —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DAVID SMITH

[10:109]

Sharon 17. Sept. 1816 —

Rev^{d} & dear Sir

I did not receive your letter until the eve of my departure for N. Haven to attend the commencement at Yale College, — where I hoped for the pleasure of seeing you. Being disappointed in that expectation I avail myself of the first mail since my return to forward a reply —

The power of imposing fines for neglect of military duty is vested by the present law not in the captain of the company, but in a board consisting of the field officers of the regiment — If Mr Stevens labours under infirmities certified by the physician it is presumed no board will be so unreasonable as to fine him for omitting to perform military service —

The interference of the executive on such occasions is attended with inconveniences which should be encountered only in extreme cases — Should Mr Stevens be hereafter unreasonably harrassed let him send me the proper evidence, to wit a

certificate of his disability *from the Surgeon of the regiment* and I will endeavour to afford him relief —

With very great respect I am Rev^{d} & Dr Sir
your obedient & hum^{l} Ser^{t}

Revd Mr Smith —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO PHINEHAS SMITH AND OTHERS

[10:110]

Sharon 17. Sept. 1816 —

Gentlemen

I have received your letter accompanied by the representation of the light Infantry in Roxbury —

From the report made to me by the Adjutant General I had supposed, and no doubt that officer entertained the same impression, that the union of the two flank companies in Woodbury & Roxbury was an arrangement agreeable to all parties — I very much regret to perceive by your communication that it is otherwise —

It was expected that the new company would parade for ordinary exercise at Woodbury & Roxbury alternating — and if necessary an explicit order will be made to that effect — — This would obviate in a great degree one of the difficulties mentioned in the petition. It would afford me suitable pleasure to remove every other objection. I am not authorized to form the petitioners into a seperate flank company — but I might possibly accept them as *Riflemen* — Two or three companies are still wanting to complete that corps — I should like therefore to be informed whether the members of the Light Infantry in Roxbury are desirous that such a measure should be adopted and if so whether it is probable that a respectable Rifle company could be raised in that vicinity without material injury to the located companies — ? —

I am gentlemen respect —
fully your obedient servant —

P. Smith Esqr & others —

[Endorsed] To Ph^{s} Smith, Eben^{r} Bennett & Is. B. Hawley Esq^{rs} —

WILLIAM BELDEN AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:111]

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith
Govenor and Capt General in and over the
State of Connecticut

We the undersigned having come to the honor of holding Commissions under the Authority of this State in the 24th Reg^{t} of Connecticut Militia under the new organization law of Oc^{t} 1815 humbly beg leave to represent unto your Excellency that s^{d} 24th Reg^{t} now is below an average Reg^{t} in this State in point of numbers; and that there now are orders of enlistment in the hands of three Cap^{ts} of Horse Artillery to enlist from the s^{d} 24th Reg^{t} whose Companies now fall far short of their compliment of men; there is also one Rifle Company already organized which has taken about twenty-five men from s^{d} Reg^{t} in the Town of Weston (Northfairfield Parish) with orders to make still further enlistments therefrom. And that under this state of facts a disaffected few within the limits of s^{d} Reg^{t} under the new organization law have conceived the idea of forming a new Rifle Company within the limits of s^{d} Reg^{t} in the Town and Parish above named all of which are in the same neighbourhood as it were and for that purpose a number of s^{d} disaffected have associated themselves together and are receiving constant accessions for the purpose aforesaid who now are on the eve of petitioning your Excellency to make them a grant of organization, Which proceedings are viewed by the undersigned with deep regret, And should your Excellency deem it expedient to give a favourable answer to the prayer of s^{d} petitioners the undersigned humbly conceive that in stead of increasing the physical power of the Militia of this State it will in a degree weaken it and that the filling up of s^{d} Company in conjunction with the beforenamed enlisted Companies will render the s^{d} 24th Reg^{t} to a mere skelaton of a Reg^{t}

All which representations the undesigned with due defference and respect submit to your Excellencies consideration with an entire belief that your Excellency will give the prayer of s^d^ petitioners an unequivocal rejection provided your Excellency shall so deem it expedient and for the best good of the Military interest of this State

Dated at WILTON Sep^t^ 18th AD 1816

The undersigned always remaining
your Excellencies most ob^t^
and humble servants
W^M^ BELDEN Lieu^t^ Col 24 Reg^t^
GURDON BARTRAM Maj^r^ 24 Reg^t^

OLIVER C. SANFORD, Capt 7th Comp 24th Regt
W^M^ DUDLEY Capt 2nd Com^y^ 24th Reg^t^
JOSEPH S DARLING Adjutant 24 Reg
JOHN B. MERRITT Capt 8 Com — — 24 Reg^t^
BRADFORD WINTON Ensign 7th Comp^y^ 24th Reg^t^

N. B. We should have had all of the Commissioned Officers of the 24th Reg^t^ signed this protest but the Officers living so remote from each other and the shorteness of the thing rendered it impossible as you will see by the date Col Gersham Burr commanding the 4 Reg^t^ will forward you a letter on this subject by the first mail

Yours as before with respect

[Superscribed] His, Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esqr Sharon
Public Service Bridgeport Ct 23 Sept.

[Endorsed] Col. Wm Belden & others — 24. Sept. 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO GILES ELLSWORTH

[10:112]

19. Sept. 1816

Capt. Giles Ellsworth

Sir —

It is made evident to me that the office of Captain in the Second company first regiment of Infantry has been returned *vacant* by mere mistake — You undoubtedly held the legal command of a company at the time the new organization took place

— and as upon the consolidation of your company with the other in the first society of Windsor the latter was destitute of a captain, the command of the newly formed company necessarily devolved upon you —

From misapprehension Capt. Strong of the late state troops was reported to the Adj^{t} Genl as entitled to take his rank in the militia — & hence it was erroneously supposed that there would be a supernumerary captain within the limits of the second company — But no officer who held a commission in the late state troops has any right in virtue of such commission to a command in the Infantry —

I therefore consider you Sir as the legal captain of the second company above named and shall accordingly expect you to perform the duties of that office — —

I am sir your ob^{t} Se^{t}

J. C. S — Capt. Genl

[Endorsed] To Capt. Giles Ellsworth

PETITION FROM SOUTHBURY

[10:113]

SOUTHBURY 19th September 1816 — —

To His Excellency John C. Smith

sir

The undersigned Inhabitants of the towns of Southbury Oxford & Co would ask lieve to state to your Excellency that in the limits of the town of Southbury there has for many years been two militia C^{os} which have formed a part of the late 13th now 12th Reg^{t} Those two C^{os} under the late establishment were not full as will be seen by a recurrence to their muster rolls under the present military arrangement their numbers will not be materially increased and they will be verry far from being full The Rifle C^{o} in the Parish of Quaker Farm in the Town of Oxford has untill the late arangement belonged to the late 13th now 12th Reg^{t} The local situation of that C^{o} and the harmony that has allways subsited [sic] between them & them and their associates of the late 13th rendered it verry desireable to them to continue annexed to the same Reg^{t} instead of being

transfered to the 2d Regt — The Quaker Farm Rifle Co though not verry small in point of numbers is not & proberbly will not be full — If that Co could be transfered to the present 12th Regt those with whom they have allways been connected and the two Cos at present within the limits of Southbury be amalgamated forming one flank Co with liberty for the Quaker Farm Rifle Co to enlist out of its limits two respetable[sic] Cos out of the present limits of the 3 might be formed and these it is believed would not be more than full — — This arangement should it take place would meet the approbation of those who now compose those three Co in whose behalf and at their request we are at this time induced to trouble your Excellency with this letter Permit us also to suggest that by the proposed alteration the 12th Regt woud be compleat & the rights of the 2d Regt would not by it be sacrificed The officer who it was expected would attend to this when the Ajt Genl was through here, was at that time unexpectedly absent otherwise it is believed the arangement would then have then taken place & Your Excellency would not have then been troubled by your Obt S — — — ts

Clark Beardsley	David Bird BrigD Genl
William Hurd	WM French Liut Colonel 12 Reg
Gilbert Twichell Capt	Aaron Hicok Capt
Obadiah Wheeler	Adam Lum Jr Lieut
Nehemiah Scott	Moses Wheeler
George Boult	Japhet Curtiss
Stephen C. Bateman	David Tomlinson — —

[Superscribed] His Excellency John C. Smith Sharon
[Endorsed] Genl Bird & others de flank companies in 12th Regt 'c. &c. Recd & answd 25th Sept. 1816 —

GEORGE W. JEWETT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:114]

Saybrook September 20. 1816

His Excelleny John Cotton Smith Captain Genl
Sir,

Enclosed I forward to your Excelleny Cap Parmelees recom-

mendation &c and the Certificate of Doc^{t} Buckly Surgeon of my Regiment — — — for the purpose of obtaining a Discharge for Lieut Noah Clark of the 9th C^{o} in 1 Reg^{t} Lt Artillry. In addition to those Documents I can add nothing except my Opinion, that I think the Interest of the 9th Company would be greatly promoted by Lieut- Clark Dismisal — as I have no Idea that he will ever appear on parade again as an Officer —
Appliation would have been made to the Brigadier, — without troubling your Excellency but I did not know whether he had orders for that purpose — —

Very respectfully I am
You Obe^{t} Servant — —
GEO W. JEWETT

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Conn — —

[Endorsed] Col. Jewett — de Lieut. Clark — order sent to Capt. Parmelee — 28. Sept. 1816 —

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:115]

NORWICH 21st Septr 1816

dear sir

Inclosed your excellency will receive an association for a rifle company in Griswold for your approbation — —

When the associates called on me to know what probability there existed of its being accepted — — I had some doubts of the expediency, th'o the location in some respects was desireable; in consequence of my doubts I desired the certificates of the commanding officers of companies that raising a rifle company woulld not injure the battalion companies — — — which are now inclosed —

I am with much esteem
sincerely yours
EBEN : HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] Adj^{t} General — de Rifle company Griswold &c. 21 Sept. 1816 rec^{d} 27th answ^{d} 28th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN L. TOMLINSON

[10:116]

SHARON 21. Sept. 1816

Sir —

I avail myself of the first mail since my return from N. Haven to reply to your letter of the 5th instant, which arrived here during my absence —

You will perceive by the Genl order of the 15th August last that the Artillery as well as the other select corps are authorized to recruit from the infantry companies in their vicinity; with the proviso however that no battalion company be thereby reduced below its legal complement — It was hoped, & I still indulge the expectation, that the located companies, enlarged as they now are, will contain a surplus sufficient to fill the various enlisted corps — I am at any rate desirous that the experiment should be fairly tried — should it fail, orders will be then issued authorizing enlistments from particular companies — The changes in your neighbourhood to which you refer I should think highly favourable to the recruiting service — I trust they will enable you to fill your ranks — If the event shall be otherwise, I will endeavour with great cheerfulness to afford you further aid —

I am sir with sincere regard your
ob^{t} se^{t} —

J. L. TOMLINSON Esqr

LINUS PARMELEE, JR. TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:117]

HADDAM September 24th 1816 — — — —

Sir,

I lament the necessity of again troubling your Excellency on

the subject of ordinance for the company under my command. Having made repeted applications to the Quarter Master Generals department, without success, is my apology for this communication.

On the 15th day of August last, I wrote to Col. Scarborough, by Col. Johnson, requesting that my company might be furnished with at least one piece of ordinance. Col. Johnson informed me that he would present my letter in person, & would endeavour to effect the object I had in view. Not hearing any thing from Col. Scarborough, I dispatched a member of my company to Hartford with another letter to him on this subject. He returned with information that the Q. M. Genl was seariously unwell. Soon after I wrote to Col. Johnson requesting to be informed why nothing had been done for my company. I recd an answer from him dated the 24th of August, informing me that he had repetedly called on Col. Scarborough & had been unable to effect any thing for me. I will take the liberty of adopting the very language of Col Johnson in his letter to me. "The Q. M. Genl says the law regulating his department requires him to supply companies with ordinance by order of the Captain General. He says he will not act under the general instructions given by the Govenor, which His Excellency alluded to in his letter to Colonel Jewett. If you request an order he demands an explicit order on him from His Excellency. As to distributing the guns more equitably he says he has nothing to do with it. He requested me to inform you that he should do nothing on the subject."

The company at Haddam is now full & have long been anxious to be provided with ordinance. Indeed it will be difficult long to preserve that military ardor & enthusiasm which now so happily prevales in the company unless some provision is speedily made for them. If Col. Jewett could be authorized by your Excellency, to exercise his discretion on this subject, I have not the least doubt but my company would be supplied with at least one piece immediately. In the 2nd Battalion in the 1st Regemt of Light Artillery there have been returned eight pieces of ordinance & my company alone is destitute. Under these circumstances I

hope your Excellency will excuse any undue solicitude which I may feel on this subject.

I am your Excellencies
Most Obedient
Servt
LINUS PARMELEE, JR.

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH, Esqr

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH, Esqr Sharon Con.

[Endorsed] Capt. L. Parmelee Jr de Col. Scarborough — 24. Sept. 1816 answd 28th see letter to Col. Scarboro

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ABEL HALL

[10:118]

State of Connecticut —

To Colonel Abel Hall — — Greeting —

Having thought proper to accept an Association of certain individuals in the town of Weston & its vicinity this day presented by you for the purpose of being formed into a company of Riflemen pursuant to the statute, (it appearing from your representation that no infantry company will be thereby reduced below its legal complement), I do direct that you cause the Associates to be notified of the time and place you shall designate for that purpose and when met that you lead them to the choice of a Captain a Lieutenant and an Ensign and the legal number of non-commissioned officers, and make your return to me of the choice of the commissioned officers in season to be presented to the next General Assembly —

Given under my hand the twenty
fourth day of September in the year of
our Lord one thousand eight hundred
and Sixteen — — —

JOHN COTTON SMITH
Captain General —

[Superscribed] Col. Abel Hall Weston —

ABEL HALL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:118A]

[On inside page]
To His Excellency John Cotton Smith
Captain General of the State of Connecticut — — — — —
In pursuance of your Excellencys within Order to me directed, I gave legal Notice to each of the Subscribers to the association, presented to your Excellency for a Rifle Company, in the Town of Weston & its vicinity, to meet upon the field of their future parade near the House of Eli Adams in Weston, on the 27th day of instant September & the Applicants being generally assembled I led them to a Choice of a Captain, Lieutenant, & Ensign, & their full number of under officers — — — — —
Their choice for Captain was as follows
James Prince Captain — ——
Eli Adams Lieutenant — — —
Nathaniel Silliman Ensign — ——
By an almost unanimous vote — —
Certified by your Excellencys most obet Humbl servant ABEL HALL Lieut

Colo 3d Regt Horse Artill
ery

[Superscribed] To His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Capt Gen[l] Sharon Abel Hall Lieut Col° Connecticut.
[Endorsed] Riflemen (Weston) Choice of officers —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO DAVID BIRD AND OTHERS

[10:119]

SHARON 25. Sept. 1816

Sir

I have just received the communication Subscribed by yourself & several other gentlemen and in reply would briefly observe that orders were issued several days since for organizing the Rifle company at Quaker's Farm — so that their annexation to the 12th regiment has become impracticable —

I think it probable from the representation made to me by Lieut. Lum that it may be expedient to consolidate the two companies in Southbury into one battalion company establishing their parade alternately in the two Societies — I will thank you to favour me with your opinion & that of other officers concerned relative to this proposition sometime whilst the legislature is in session — The arrangement can then be made if it shall be advisable — And in that event perhaps it might be proper to restore the flank company at Roxbury to their original standing as I am informed they are not satisfied to be connected with the flank company at Woodbury — —

I am Sir &c —

Gen[l] D. Bird —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO LINUS PARMELEE, JR.

[10:120]

SHARON 28. Sept. 1816

Sir —

Yours of the 24th inst. is received, and a letter now forwarded to Col. Scarborough who I trust will be able to explain the transaction to which you refer —

I have concluded to dismiss Lieut. Clark at his request communicated by Col. Jewett — & I now send the foregoing order (which you can seperate from this letter) for the purpose of filling the vacancy — Is Lieut. Clark aware that this discharge will *not exempt him from military duty in the infantry?*

You are sensible that by the existing law he has not held commissions a sufficient length of time to entitle him to a *final discharge* —

Let him act understandingly, and if he on reflection chooses to remain, you may omit to execute the order & return it to me at N. Haven by one of your representatives —

I am Sir your ob[t] & hm[l]
ser[t] —

Capt. PARMELEE —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO WILLIAM BELDEN AND OTHERS

[10:121]

SHARON 28. Sept. 1816

Sir

I have received the representation subscribed by yourself and other officers of the 24th regiment — The association of a number of individuals in Weston for the purpose of being formed into a company of Riflemen had previously been presented by Col. Abel Hall — In support of the application he informed me that there were about 180 subjects of military duty within the limits of one company in that town and that the proposed company could be formed without reducing any infantry company whatever below the number allowed by law — Hearing of no disention and Believing from this statement that none could be raised to the application I thought proper to grant it; but grounded the order expressly on the idea that *no infantry company were thereby reduced below its legal complement* — — If the information I have thus received is essentially incorrect they will not be established nor the officers commissioned — The order when returned to me will at any rate be with held, until further inquiry can be had —

It is my sincere desire to preserve the infantry regiments from undue encroachments & to keep them as large & respectable possible — Accordingly you will perceive by the Genl order organizing the militia in what manner all the select corps are restricted in their enlistments from the Infantry — At the same time you are sensible that the law has made it my duty to organize Artillery, cavalry & Riflemen, as well as Infantry — To maintain these different descriptions of force in their just proportions is attended with no little difficulty & embarrassment — I commend Sir the laudable solicitude manisfested by you & the other officers for the interest of your regiment — and am Sir your obt & hm Sert

J. C. S —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ZEPHANIAH WILLIAMS

[10:122]

SHARON 28. Sept. 1816 —

Sir —

Your letter must have been unreasonably delayed at some post office, as it did not reach me until the last mail —

The Brigadier Generals are now authorized to dismiss commissioned & staff officers in certain cases. — I would however have cheerfully considered the request of Capt. Barlow if you had stated to me his case and the length of time he has held a commission or commissions — He may have good reasons for being discharged *from his office* —but you are sensible that by the late law unless he has served the period therein prescribed his discharge *will not exempt him from military duty* — — As I am not sufficiently informed of his claims I think he had best make his application to Brigadier General Salter —

I am Sir respectfully your ob^{t}

Ser^{t} —

Col. WILLIAMS —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JARED SCARBOROUGH

[10:123]

SHARON 28. Sept. 1816 —

Dr Sir

I am sorry to learn by a letter from Capt. Parmelee of the Artillery that his company is still destitute of a piece of ordnance — and that the delay has arisen from an apprehension on your part that my instructions under date of the 10. July last were not sufficiently explicit to reach his case — There must be some mistake in this affair — for if any doubt or difficulty had arisen in your mind as to the propriety or practicability of executing those instructions I feel quite sure you would have had the goodness to apprize *me* of it at the earliest moment —

It is obvious that with our present supply of brass ordnance each company of Artillery (excepting the large companies in

Hartford & New Haven) must be limited to one piece — I am informed the company at Saybrook and the one at Killingworth have each of them two brass guns — It was my expectation, as it is now my desire that one gun be taken from the former and delivered to Capt. Parmelee in the adjoining town of Haddam for the use of his company — and that one gun be taken from the company in Killingworth and delivered to the commanding officer of the nearest company either of Lt Artillery or of Horse Artillery destitute of ordnance — whenever an application shall be made for that purpose

I am Sir your obedient &
humble ser^{t} — —

Col. SCARBOROUGH
[Endorsed] To Q. M. General — 28. Sept. 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

[10:124]

SHARON 28. Sept. 1816

Dear Sir —

I have lately issued instructions for the organization of a Rifle company in Weston with directions that the Captain elect should report himself to you for orders — — Since which from a representation made to me by the principal officers of the 24th regiment I am led to suspect some deception may have been practised in obtaining the grant — It is therefore my desire that you suspend any orders in the case until further inquiry can be had —

Since my last companies of Riflemen have been formed or authorized in Pomfret, Oxford, & Griswold which with the company above mentioned if established will make our whole number *nineteen* —

I heartily rejoice at your election to the Genl Assembly — and am Dr Sir sincerely your friend & Ser^{t} —

Genl C. WHITTELSEY —
[Endorsed] To Genl C. Whittelsey 28. Sept. 1816 de Rifle company in Weston —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[10:125]

SHARON 28. Sept. 1816 —

Dr Sir

I have received your favour of the 21st instant enclosing the association in Griswold &c for the purpose of being formed into a company of Riflemen — It has appeared to me advisable to accept the Association, and you will therefore be pleased to issue orders to some suitable person to lead the Associates to a choice of officers — — Should any serious objections however from any quarter have reached you since your letter was despatched, I must desire you to exercise your sound discretion as to the propriety of issuing the order at present — Having lately met with unexpected & strong opposition to the formation of a Rifle company in the bounds of the 4th brigade in a case which from the representation appeared to be a very fair one, I feel the importance of much caution upon this subject — — — The present application *seems* to be unexceptionable, especially after the assent of the infantry captain in that vicinity — If finally established it will form *the 19th company* we shall have orgainzed —

Such orders for choice of officers as may in any case have been returned to your office you will be pleased to forward to me at New Haven —

I am Dr Sir very sincerely your
friend & Srt —

Adj. Genl HUNTINGTON —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[10:126]

Gentlemen of the Council
Mr Speaker and
Gentlemen of the House of Representatives . —

No important change seems to have taken place in the for-

eign relations of the United States since the last meeting of the
disturb [inserted]
General Assembly; nor has any event occurred to interrupt our internal repose. — It becomes us gratefully to acknowledge the Divine Hand in the continued enjoyment of peace abroad, and of tranquility at home.

That the advantages which were confidently expected from the restoration of peace have not been realized in their full extent
surprise [inserted]
is indeed a subject of regret but not of despondency. The irregularities which had unfortunately entered into the pursuits as well as into the monied operations of the country the depressed condition of manufacturing employments, the limitations still imposed upon commerce and the successful competition of foreign vessls[sic] in the transportation even of our own productions are evils of a nature too stubborn to yield at once to any remedies
faithfully [inserted]
however skilfully applied. I trust nevertheless a brighter day approaches. The discouragements to navigation which may have grown out of the late commercial treaty will expire at no very distant period, and I think we may entertain a well grounded confidence that the National government will not suffer them to be renewed. Other embarrassments will probably disappear as the country shall return to the regular pursuits of industry, and
may [inserted]
as Divine Providence shall favour the characteristic assiduity and enterprize of our citizens. — — In the meantime the representatives of a People extensively concerned in the cultivation of the soil and of the arts and manufactures which are intimately connected with it, will not lose sight of objects so important. I am persuaded gentlemen you will afford them such encouragement
the best views [inserted]
as shall comport with an enlarged view of the interests of the commonwealth.

I have the satisfaction to inform you that the reorganization of the militia contemplated by the Act of October last has been perfected as far as respects the infantry cavalry and Artillery.

The General order embracing these arrangements will be submitted to your examination. The formation of the regiments of Riflemen will doubtless be completed in time for the appointment of their field-officers at the present session. — — In discharging the duties injoined by the act unwearied pains have been taken to fulful the intentions of the legislature in a manner the least burdensome to individuals — to consult in short as much as possible the personal accommodation of our fellow citizens consistently with a due regard to the efficiency of the system. How far the attempt has succeeded time must determine. It would not be strange that in arrangements affecting in a greater or less degree almost every company in the state some errours should intervene, either from want of the requisite information or from other causes. These it is hoped are few and may be still Susceptible of amendment. Whenever discovered they will be readily and cheerfully corrected. You will permit me Gentlemen to congratulate you on the accomplishment of a reform which recent experience had shown to be highly desirable, and which if carried into effect by our militia with their usual spirit, as it undoubtedly will be, must eminently conduce to the military strength and consequently to the future safety of the state. We may indeed justly lament that there should exist the least occasion for preparations of this nature, and we look forward with
wholly [inserted]
elevated hopes to a day in which they will become altogether unnecessary; But that we should defend ourselves against the unprovoked assaults of an enemy and that a state of preparedness is the secret mode of avoiding aggression are principles which the present condition of the world has but too well established, and which I trust are not less conformable to the ditates of a pure and peaceful religion than to the maxims of an enlightened policy. — —

By particularly adverting to the Act already mentioned it will be seen that further provisions are required to insure its complete operation. You will also observe that by a late act of Congress an alteration is prescribed in the rank and commission of

field officers in the militia. A regulation which it is desirable to adopt at the present time.

It was recommended to the legislature at a former session to revise certain parts of our criminal code; and several modifications were accordingly made which are believed to be salutary. The inquiry however was not finally closed and of course it will again invite your attention. As connected with this subject allow me gentlemen to observe that the law which defines and punishes forgery was passed at a period when the notes of incorporated banks constituted a small proportion of the circulating medium of the country. Hence to forge alter or counterfeit "bills or securities" of this description was subjected to no higher penalties than were annexed to several offenses which are obviously of an inferiour grade, whether we regard the temptation to the crime, the frequency with which it is committed, or its injurious effects upon the great interests of the community — If in the one case the punishment is now adequate, in the other it is manifestly too severe — From the free circulation of bank notes authorized by the different states, it would appear that in a question of this nature the respective states have a common concern, and are therefore deeply interested in establishing a uniform mode of treating the offence — It is at any rate to be desired that a crime which strikes at the root of credit and confidence amongst men should if possible be effectually prevented. — I am sensible it is at all times difficult to fix with exact propriety the apportionment of punishments to crimes — to balance with an even hand the claims of humanity and the demands of punitive justice — How far the material change which has taken place in mercantile intercourse requires a corresponding alteration in our laws is a point respectfully submitted to your consideration —

An election of President and Vice President of the United States will be held on the first wednesday in December next. It will accordingly be the duty of the General Assembly to appoint within the time limited by the Act of Congress, the number of electors to which the state is entitled — —

In every measure Gentlemen which may be calculated to strengthen & adorn our free & happy form of government, or

which may in any degree contribute to support our national institutions and advance the honour & prosperity of our country, you may rely on my sincere and zealous cooperation — —

JOHN COTTON SMITH —

General Assembly
October Session
1816 —

[Endorsed] Speech October 1816 —

MOSES HAYDEN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:127]

*To His Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq*r

Sir

Thomas C, , Parker, 2d Lieut, , of the 10th Company 2d Regiment of Lt Artillery has been Superseeded & in consequence thereof requests to be Dischargd from further Military service — —

Beleiving his request to be Reasonable I take the liberty to reccommend him to your Excelleny's wise consideration

With great regard
Your Excl Obt humle Sert
MOSES HAYDEN Majr
2d Regt Lt Artl

Octr 1816

[Superscribed] To His Exl JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr Capt General State Connt New Haven

[Endorsed] Lieut. Thos C. Parker request for discharge — Dismissed from office order issued 18. Oct 1816

RESOLUTION

[10:128]

At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut holden at New-Haven in said State on the second Thursday of October A. D. 1816.

Resolved by this Assembly that in all cases where in the

opinion of the Captain-General it will contribute to the strength or convenience of the Militia, he is hereby empowered to raise or establish more than two flank companies to a Regiment of Infantry, and locate the same as he shall judge expedient.

Provided the same be done before the rising of the General Assembly in October next.

A true Copy of record
Examined by
THOMAS DAY Secretary.

[Endorsed] Resolve de Flank Companies.

REMONSTRANCE FROM WILTON

[10:129]

To the Honorable Legislator of the State of Connecticut to be holden at Newhaven on the 2nd Thursday of Ins^t Oc^t — We the undersigned feeling a just pride at the recollections of having been thought worthy of the confidence of a Legislator always distinguished for its wisdom and integrity and now having the honor of holding Military Commissions under the Legislative authority of this State in the 24th Reg^t of Connecticut Militia under the new organization passed Oc^t session 1815 and justly appreciating the great importance of a free State and a Militia sistem combining all the advantages of a wise organization and a practical improvement of its Militia in efficiency and power; and think it a subject among the first claiming the attention of a wise legislator and from a solicitude for the same the undersigned humbly beg leave to represent unto your Honorable body — — That whereas s^d 24th Reg^t now is much below an avarage Reg^t in this State with respect to numbers and that all the Co^s composing s^d Reg^t excepting the 2nd & 7th are much short of their complement of privates as by the returns of the Commandants of s^d Co^s to the Adjutant General in Sept last will fully appear and that the Commandants of three of the Companies in the third Regt of Horse Artillery now have orders of enlistment to recruit from s^d 24th Reg^t, also the Commandant of a Rifle Company recently formed and Commanded by Levi Edwards; and that a disappointed and disaffected few within the

limits of s^{d} 24th Reg^{t} under the late new organization of the Militia of this State with a full knowledge of the above facts, did in Sept last secretly with deceit and misrepresentation petition his Excellency the Govenor of this State praying for an act of organising them into a Rifle C^{o} And that by reason of s^{d} deceit and misrepresentation his Excellency the Governor reposing special confidence in s^{d} petitioners was induced afterwards (viz) in s^{d} Sept to grant the prayer contained in s^{d} petition together with an order directed to one Abel Hall (the bearer of s^{d} petition) to lead s^{d} petitioners to the election of Commissioned Officers, and that afterwards to wit in s^{d} Sept s^{d} Hall led s^{d} petitioners to the election of s^{d} Officers in pursuance of s^{d} order when James Prince was chosen Capt, Eli Adams Lieu^{t}, and Nathaniel Sillaman Ensign the result of which election has already been returned to s^{d} Legislator for the purpose of obtaining commissions. agreeable to s^{d} several appointments (s^{d} last name Rifle C^{o} has chosen its parade ground within about four miles of that chosen by the other Rifle company commanded by s^{d} Edwards) And the under signed humbly conceive that the granting of s^{d} commissions and the establishment of s^{d} C^{o} together with enlistments from s^{d} 24th Reg^{t} for the filling up of the other before named enlisted C^{os} will reduce s^{d} 24th Reg^{t} almost to annihilation and instead of serving or renewing the Military arm of this State with more power and efficienty; it on the contrary will paralize and enfeeble it. And in the event of the granting of s^{d} Commissions and the establishment of s^{d} C^{o} the undersigned humbly beg leave to resign their Military Commissions to the authority which granted them and to be exemt from further Military services under the same as they can feel no pride, honor, nor ambition in the command of men; remnents of C^{os} or of a Reg^{t} All which is most humbly submited for your wise consideration — —

Dated at Wilton
Oc^{t} 3rd AD 1816 —

The undersigned remain your
most obedient and very humble
Serv^{ts}

W^{M} Belden Lieu^{t} Col 24 Reg^{t}
Gurdon Bartram Maj^{r} 24 Reg^{t}

EZRA BENEDICT Maj^{r} 24th Regt
W^{M} DUDLEY Capt 2 Com^{y} 24th Reg^{t}
IRA BETTS Leut 2 Compt 24 Regt
DAVID LOCKWOOD pay Master 24th Reg^{t}
SILLIMAN GODFREY Capt 5 Com^{t} 24 Reg^{t}
OLIVER C SANFORD Capt 7th Comp 24th Reg^{t}
JOSEPH L DARLING Adj^{t} 24 Reg
BRADFORD WINTON En^{s} 7th C^{o} 24 Reg.

[Endorsed] Remonstrance —

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:130]

NORWICH 4 Octo^{r} 1816

Dear sir

In obedience to your Excellencys wish, I have written General Deming on the subject mentioned in your's of the 30th (which was handed me on Saturday Morn^{g} by Mr Huntington,) his reply when rec^{d} I will communicate

I am sorry to hear that errors have been found in assigning officers to commands — — — that some should have occurred in fixing limits, was expectable — — — — —

The applications by John Fuller & Lavinus Farnham for a Rifle Company in Lisbon, I supposed had been abandoned, — — — — The company in Lisbon is not full, nor neither of the adjoining companies — When those Gentlemen applied to me on the subject, I told them it was not practicable to have a Rifle Company without destroying the battalion company in that town — — I am still of the opinion that a Rifle company can not be raised in that vicinity — — — — I *suppose* them both Sergeants who want promotion & then be clear of duty — — — — I am with much respect & esteem

very sincerely yours — —
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency GOVERNOUR SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Ad. Genl Huntington 4. Novr 1816 answ^{d} 16th

JAMES PRINCE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:131]

To His Excellency John Cotton Smith Capt Genl of the Militia of Connecticut —

Sir Having heard that there has been a Remonstrance, signed by several officers of the [ ]th Brigade against the grant for a a [sic.] Rifle Company in the Town of Weston, agreeable to the petition presented to your Excellency by Lieut Colo Hall of Horse Artillery, & according to your General Order to him directed, accepting, & establishing the same — — — & that your Excellency answer to those who remonstrated was [ren]dered favorable to them. — — — — —

I have therefore thought proper to address you on the Subject & give you that recital of Facts which I might think proper, & request that information from your Excellency that may be expedient in the case — — — Your Excellency is doubtless in possession of the Returns of Lieut Colo Hall of the Election of the officers of said Company, as Certified upon the back of your Excellencys General Order — — — —

So far as it regards the Assertion of Colo Hall, as Noticed in your General Order "in not reducing any Infantry Compy. below their legal complement" from my knowledge of the case I dont hesitate to declare him Substantially correct, as the Roll of Capt Sanford's Company & his returns must certainly identify — — — — — —

Perhaps there may be three or four Names inadvertently Subscribed to the Petition which belong to other Companies, of whose Situation as it respects their Complement of Men I am Unable to determine — — but if it is the case that they have not their full comp[leme]nt we have no disposition to retain them as the Company can be easily filled without any unfair means — — — — Not having kept a copy of the Names of those included in the Petition presented to your Excellency, I am Unable to say whether those three or 4 Men Stated to belong to other than Capt Sanfords Company were Subscribed to that, or a Similar form, after that was forwarded — — — — —

Perfectly willing to have the ground of of [sic] our claim

fully investigated, & relying with the Utmost confidence upon your Excellencys impartiality, & equal justice, firmly persuaded in the belief, that your Excellency will be aware of the interest that the officers who signed the remonstrance may have in the case, as transfering Men from them into a Corps, over which they can have no controul — — I would therefore earnestly request your Excellency, if compatible with your feelings, to State to us the ground of their Remonstrance, & if it is probable that the Commissions will be opposed, to inform us what facts will be required of the Company to rebut them I think Colo Hall will evince to your Excellency, that he has done Nothing in this case incompatible with the honour of an Officer, or of Strict Justice — — — & I presume your Excellency will not be at a loss to determine, from their relative Situations which would be most likely to be prejudiced, the Officers signing the Remonstrance or Colo Hall — — — — With sentiments of the highest Esteem

Respectfully yours —
JAMES PRINCE
Elected Capt of Weston R.Cy.

WESTON Octr 5th 1816

[Superscribed] To his Excellency John Cotton SMITH — Capt Genl New Haven Connecticut Trumbull Octr 7th Ja Prince Capt Rifle Company Military Returns 6 forwarded

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:132]

NORWICH 7th October 1816

My dear sir

Inclosed your Excellency will receive a return of several elections of officers which have been transmitted to me & would by me have been forwarded to the military committee (to be appointed) had not your Excellency directed them to be forwarded to you as pr letter of the 28th Ulto

I find that some few errors which occurred in the formation of companies require correction

In the second company of the fifth regiment, it should read *the Town of Plainfield* excepting &c — — as a part of the 1st Society of Canterbury includes a small part of the town of Plainfield & it was my intention to include the town of Plainfield

In the sixth company of the eleventh regiment, it ought to have been added *excepting that part included in Muddy* Brook Society

I am informed that a custom prevails among the inlisted companies (particularly the Cavalry) to strike out mens names from their rolls — — — & enlist others in their stead, if so, it is certainly an evil which requires a remedy

I begin to apprehend a want of punctuality in receiving returns from the inspectors, as none have yet been forwarded to me — — — — If a General Officer resigns his commission, are his *aides* liable to be enrolled, without they have served *two* [?] years?

I am with much esteem & respect
very sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH

[Endorsed] Returns delivered to Col. Abernathey — towit Oxford Pettipaug Groton Chatham Coventry Newtown, Riflemen; also 2. Conn. 2 Regt. Horse Artillery

SAMUEL H. WOODRUFF TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[10:133]

SOUTHINGTON October 8th 1816

General Huntington Sir

Since I last had a conversation with you on the subject of converting the late 10th Compy 1st Regt of State Troops into a Rifle Company, I have conversed with many of the soldiers of that Company and find that they now are anxious to be estab-

lished as a Rifle Company. We have men enough in this town & in the parishes of Britian & Kensington in the town of Berlin to constitute a good Rifle Company — The Battallion Companies in each of those places enroll more than ninety privates at present so that out of those companies men to fill a Rifle Company might be inlisted without detriment Personally I feel but little interest in the business — — But many ambitious and public spirited individuals have solicited me to make communication to you on the subject. It is therefore my request & theirs that arrangements may be speedily made to authorise the formation of a Rifle company here to consist of the old 10th Compy 1st Regt State Corps & such others in the vicinity as may enlist without detriment to the battallion Companies — — An answer as soon as convenient will oblige me & them Any thing which I can do by way of forwarding the object will be cheerfully performed

Respectfully yours &c
SAM H WOODRUFF

Genl EBENr HUNTINGTON

[Superscribed] Genl EBENEZER HUNTINGTON Norwich Cont
Southington Oct 8th

[On inside leaf of the foregoing]

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO SAMUEL H. WOODRUFF

NORWICH 10 Octo 1816

Samuel H Woodruff Esq
Sir

His Excellency the Captain General has the sole management of forming Rifle companies to him I have forwarded your application — — — — — By writing to, or calling on him you will obtain his opinion as to the expediency of forming a compy in Southington — — —

I am with esteem
your humble servt
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

JOSHUA BULKELEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:134]

His Excellency John Cotton Smith

Sir

Capt Elkanah Williams of the second Battallion Company in the 20th Regt of Militia wishes to be discharged from Military duty stating that his health is such as renders it necessary for him to retire from service, and I would state Sir that sometime in May last he fell from the frame of a Building which so much injured his health that in my opinion he ought to retire and would recommend him for a discharge

I have the honor to be Sir your Excellencys
Obedient & very Humble Servt
JOSHUA BULKELEY 2nd Lieut Col^{o} Com^{dt} of
the 20th Reg^{t} Connecticut Militia

COLCHESTER Oct 8th 1816

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH New-Haven

[Endorsed] Capt. Williams 20 Reg^{t} for a dismission — granted *from office* after &c. order 18th Oct. 1816

PETITION FROM EAST HADDAM MILLINGTON SOCIETY

[10:135]

To His Excellency John Cotton Smith Esqr Captain General & Commander in Chief of the Militia of the State of Connecticut — the Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of East Haddam in the County of Middlesex — respectfully Sheweth —

That by the recent Organization of the Militia of this State the Society of Millington in sd East Haddam & that part of New Salem Society, which lies in the Town of Colchester in the County of New London were formed into & now compose the Seventh Company in the Third Regiment of the Militia of this State — — That from one extremity of the limits of sd Company to the other is a distance of nearly Twenty miles — that

a large proportion of those who are by law liable to perform military duty in sd Millington Society, in order to do the same, will be ordinarily obliged on each day of Company exercise or other Company duty to travel at least Ten miles from their respective places of abode & on days of Regimental Exercise or other Regimental duty between Twenty & Thirty Miles, by which they are unavoidably subjected to considerable expence & much trouble & that though they have no wish to avoid the performance of a duty they owe to their Country they cannot under those circumstances & considering the frequency of such occasions, but view it as a very great burthen Your Petitioners would likewise represent that in sd Millington Society there are about one Thousand Inhabitants & it is believed a Sufficient number of persons liable to do Military duty therein to form a Complete Company & to which number there is a prospect of large additions being made within a short period of time — that if sd Millington Society were formed into a distinct Company, the residue of sd Seventh Company would be sufficient to constitute another distinct Company in sd New Salem Society, or if it should be thought expedient to increase the Same that that part of sd Society of New Salem, which lies in the Town of Lyme in sd New London County, not having been included in the late organization of the Militia, may be annexed to it & perform Military duty therein with little trouble or inconvenience, & that should sd Millington Society be so formed into a distinct Company as aforesaid one half or more of the travel & a large proportion of the expence, to which those in sd Millington Society liable to perform Military duty are subjected would then be saved & if being so formed it should be united to the 20th Regiment (which Your Petitioners apprehend might very advantageously be done) the travel & expence would be still much more diminished & those who are so liable in sd Millington Society as aforesaid much relieved of a burthen, they now so sensible feel — & Your Petitioners would further represent that there are now within the limits of sd Seventh Company Eight Commissioned & Twenty Non Commissioned Officers & that they believe scarcely any Society of the same extent & so great a

population as that of Millington is to be found in this State, in which a distinct Company has not been formed Wherefore Your Petitioners request Your Excellency to take the case into Your Consideration & form sd Millington Society into a distinct Company & cause the Same to be annexed to the 20th Regiment of the Militia of this State or in some other way grant relief in the premises as to Your Excellency may seem proper & Your Petitioners will pray &c — — Dated at EAST HADDAM the 8th day of October Anno Domini 1816 —

William Cone
John G Griffin
Benjamin Graves
Gardiner Gallup
James Maynerd
George R Griffin
Nathan Griffin
Ezra Beebe
Nathaniel P Ransom
Samuel B Griffin
William Ransom
Bilss[sic] Ransom
Elijah Chapman
Gardiner Gallup Jr.
Joseph Gallup
Gurdon Rogers
Gurdon Rogers Jr.
Abner Chapman
Asa Jones
Eliphalet Jones
Harry Jones
Russel Dutton
Christopher Johnson
Helon Cone
Erastus Cone
Abel Denison
Asa W Denison
Robert Anderson
Sammuel Emons
Ezekiel Y Peck
Russel Wickham
Cyrus Willey
Samᴸ Cone
Samᴸ W Cone
Chauncy Fuller
Daniel Gates
Daniel Southmayd
Freeman Southmayd
Joseph Paddock
Levi Palmer
Saml Beckwith Jr.
Shepherd Burdick
William Paddock
Niles Phelps
Elias Lay
James Clarke
Isaac Spencer
Wᴹ Cornwell
Asher Roberts
Josiah Hungerford
Wells Anderson
Oren Gates
Russel Harvey
Oliver Olmsted

Barzilla Beckwith
Silas Chadwick Jr.
Charles L Fox
James Chadwick
David Griffin
Amos Randall
Dudley Randall
Ezekiel Fox
Nathaniel B Beckwith
Ebenezer Hinkley
Roswell Graves
Russel Harvey 3D
Jabez Willey
Rufus Willey
Nathan Chapel
BenJ Chamberlin
Ephraim Arnold
Thomas Burk
Thomas Rathbun Jur
Richard Hays
Josiah Harvey
Manley Beebe
Diodate Lord
William Cone 2D
Nathan Scofell
Diodate Jones
Jared Brainerd
Aron Fox
Samuel Martin
Daniel F Church
Diodate A Church
Jonathan L Emmons
Oliver Dickenson
Simeon Dickenson
Lemuel Dickenson
Lyman Burke
Joseph W Cone
Lyman C Ransom
Rodney Arnold
Ezra Jones
Allen Bump
Richard G Spencer
Ephraim Warner Jr.
William Marsh
Thomas Ackley
Plin Ackley
Joseph A Willey
Bri Gates
Hobart Esterbrook Jr
Ephraim Warner
Dyer Warner
Jonah Marsh
William B Boardman
Thomas C Bordman
Woodward Marsh Jun
Jared Spencer
Turner Miner
Henry Miner
Newel Cone
Hurlbert Swan
Asa Swan
Diodate L Swan
Rufus W Swan
Jabez Swan
Andrew Watrous
Charles Miner
Edwin Spencer
Isaac Williams
Woodward Marsh
Charles Cone
William Martin
Ephraim Arnold Jur
Samuel A Fuller
Alvin Ackley

Israel Cone Jun	Ambrose A Beebe
Jabez Swan Jun	Reed Anderson
Noadiah Emmons	Joseph Southmayd
Augustine Emmons	67
68	68
	135

[Endorsed] Petition
from Millington

CERTIFICATE BY JOHN BESTOR

[10:136]

Simsbury Octr 10th 1816.—

This certifies that Judah P. Barnard a Serj^{t} in the first Troop first Reg^{t} of Connecticut Cavalry has been for several years past, in an infirm state of bodily health; particularly, he has an affection of the head, attended with pain & dizziness; Also, a lame shoulder by reason of a fracture of the collarbone. Considering all his indisposition; I think it very unlikely that he will ever be an able effective soldier: He is therefore recommended to his Officers for a discharge from Military duty.

John Bestor Phys^{n} & Surgeon

[Endorsed] Judah P. Barnard Serg^{t} in cavalry discharged 28 Oct. 1816

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:137]

Norwich 10 Octo^{r} 1816

My dear sir

By Mr Huntington one of the representatives of this town I wrote you and inclosed the elections of officers of such companies as had made return to me — —

I suggested my fears respecting the returns from the Brigadiers — — — I find them realized in part — — —

I wish your Excellency to direct me what to do with the applications of the Staff who are supernumary & ask discharges — The resolve of the Legislature doth not reach the Staff — — — — — — Your Excellency was pleased to refer the Griswold Application to me, I have issued the necessary order & shall probably receive a return of the choice of Officers tomorrow and forward next week, at which time I hope to be able to forward the returns of the Militia

Inclosed your Excellency will receive a letter from Captain Woodruff to me and a copy of my answer

I am with respect and esteem
very sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH New Haven
[Endorsed] paper torn by E H [sic]

TIMOTHY BISHOP TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:138]

NEW HAVEN October 14th 1816

Sir

The undersigned has the honor to hold from your Excellency the Commission of Commandant of the Second Company of Governors Foot Guards and requests your acceptance of his resignation — — —

For fifteen years I have performed military duty, and, about Six years, have held a commission in said Company — — Should this length of service not be, in the opinion of your Excellency, reason sufficiently weighty for you to grant me a dismission, permit me to add, that my situation in Life in various respects, makes it not only unpleasant, but, very inconvenient to discharge the duties of this office for any longer period — — — — —

I received your Excellencys order under date of the 24th of

August last, to lead the 2d Comy of Govrs Ft Guards, "at such time as I should designate", to the choice of a suitable person to fill the office of first Lieutenant — — I have not to this time fulfilled this order, because I wished to ascertain whether the office of second Lieutenant should become vacant also — — — The 2d Lieutenant (Hezh Hotchkiss Junr) removed from this Town, into the State of New York nearly a year since — and from all the information I can collect from his friends here, it is a matter of some uncertainty whether he will return to reside in this place again — — — — Before I informed your Excellency that the office of first Lieutenant had been vacated by the death of Lieut Doolittle, I wrote to Lieut Hotchkiss, to ascertain from him whether it was his intention to return and whether he wished to be considered as a condidate for the first Lieutenancy — — — I have recd no answer — — — — Previous to Lt Hotchkiss' leaving New Haven I understood (from report merely) that he had given, or intended to give, in his resignation — — but I had no communication with him upon the subject — — — — —

Will your Excellency please to inform me whether the office of second Lieutenant shall be considered as vacated, and give me orders upon this subject also — — — — — —I wait your Excellencys commands

and have the honor to be
very respectfully
Yr Exys most Obt Hle Sert
TIMOTHY BISHOP
Majr Comt 2d Cy Govrs Ft Guards

Since writing the above I have been informed that Lieut Hotchkiss will probably return — His family did not remove — — they still continue in New Haven — — — — — — — —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Captain General St Cont New Haven
[Endorsed] Major Bishop — requesting a discharge — not granted —

MICHAEL P. WALKER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:139]

HARTFORD Oct. th 14 1816

To his excelency Govener Smith of Sharon *Sir*

haveing duly enlisted a member of your gard and consideuring myself in duty bound to defend your person to the last extremity I enlisted on the fourth of Sept. last and ame redy at a moments warning to obey the order of [m]y officeers I have Since that time been duly moved to act under the command of Capt. Wadsworth as a member of his company and did not appeer so I was returned as a delinquent to the board this day who meet for the purpes of leveing fines. and on me they have leved three for which I make this appeal praying to be considered and discharged from the same if agreeable to your will. I shewed the officeers my Sertificate from Mag. Bull but it avaled nothing Mag. Marther would not consider me. pleas to send me an answer by the mail.

So I remain your worthy subject

MICHAEL P WALKER

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH New Haven

[Endorsed] Michael P. Walker appeal — recd 16th Oct. 1816 notice issued to the parties 16th Oct — to appear 24th at 6' o'cl. P.M. — 1816 —

GENERAL ORDERS

[10:140]

State of Connecticut
General Orders

October 14th 1816

A General courtmartial whereof Lieut. Colonel Benjamin Baldwin is President, was held at Guilford on the 8th day of August last, by order of the Brigadier General of the Second brigade for the trial of Ansel Southworth Ensign of the late 8th now 7th Company in the 7th regiment of Infantry under arrest upon seven distinct charges of misbehaviour and unofficerlike conduct.

The court on a full hearing of the case found the accused not guilty of the first, second, fourth, fifth and seventh charges, but pronounced him *guilty* of the third and Sixth charges in arrest and thereupon Sentenced him to be CASHIERED *with disability of holding any military office in this state* —

The Captain General having examined and maturely considered the whole record approves the sentence of the court and orders that the same be carried into effect —

The Brigadier General of the Second brigade will issue the necessary instructions to fill the vacancy which has been thus occasioned in the company aforesaid —

The General court martial of which Lieut. Colonel Baldwin is President is hereby dissolved —

[Endorsed] General order approving Sentence C^t^ Martial 2 Brig^d^ — Ensign Southworth 14. Oct. 1816 —

CERTIFICATE OF SILLIMAN GODFREY

[10:141]

I hereby Certify that the Muster Roll of My Company Contains 59 Men Rank & file

SILLIMAN GODFREY { Capt 5th Compy / 24th Regt

WESTON October 14th 1816

[Endorsed] 5th Compy

CERTIFICATE OF HEZEKIAH ST. JOHN

[10:142]

I hereby Certify that the Muster Roll of my Company contains 30 Rank & File

NEWCANAN October 14th 1816

HEZEKIAH ST JOHN Capt 2th Grend Compy
24 Regt

[Endorsed] Capt St Johns 2d Grend Compy

CERTIFICATE OF SAMUEL SMITH

[10:143]

I hereby Certify that the Muster Roll of my Compy contains 31 Rank & File

SAMUEL SMITH
Capt 1st Gdr Compy
24th Regt

RIDEFIELD Otober 15th 1816

[Endorsed] Capt Smith 1st Grenadier Compy

CERTIFICATE OF JOSIAH DIKEMAN

[10:144]

I Hereby Certify that the muster roll of my company Contains 39 Rank & file

JOSIAH DIKEMAN Capt 6 Company
24th Regt

RIDGEBURY Oct the 15 AD 1816
[Endorsed] 6th Comy

CERTIFICATE OF DAVID DAUCHY

[10:145]

I Hereby Certify that the muster roll of my Company contains 75 Rank and File

DAVID DAUCHY Capt 1st Company
24 Regt

RIDGEFIEL[D] October 15th 1816
[Endorsed] 1st Compy

CERTIFICATE OF STURGES FANTON

[10:146]

24 Regt

I Hereby Certify that that [sic] the muster roll of the 8th Company Contains 53 Rank and file

STURGES FANTON First Sergt. of the 8th Comp.
24th Regt.

READING October 16th 1816
[Endorsed] 8th Compy

CERTIFICATE OF HOLLY SEYMOUR

[10:147]

I hereby Certify that the Muster Roll of my Company Contains 70 Rank & File

HOLLY SEYMOUR Capt 4 Compy
24th Regt

NEWCANAN Oct 15th 1816
[Endorsed] 4th Compy

CERTIFICATE OF EDWARD COUCH

[10:148]

I hereby certify that the Muster roll of the 3rd Company contains 69 rank and file
READING October 16th 1816

EDWARD COUCH First
Serjt. of the third Company 24 Regiment
[Endorsed] 3rd Company Capt Darling

CERTIFICATE OF JOHN B. MERITT

[10:149]

I hereby Certify that I have seen the Annual Returns of Capt Dudly of the 2d Comy 24th Regt, & that his returns were 102 either privates or Rank & file

JOHN B. MERITT Capt 8 Com
24 Regt

NEWHAVEN 17th Octr 1816
[Endorsed] Capt Merits Certificate

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:150]

NORWICH 15 October 1816

My dear sir

Inclosed your Excellency will receive a return of the choice of Officers for the Rifle Company in Griswold — — also an inspection return from Genl Deming of the Field Artillery and of two regiments of Horse Artillery, the third Regt having made

no return to him — — — — Having rec^{d} returns only from the 2^{d} 3^{d} and 5th brigades, I shall defer making a return to your Excellency till after the arrival of the Hartford Mail tomorrow evening in hopes of presenting to your view the statement of the whole militia — — — — — I shall address a circular to the Brigadiers whose returns shall not be received by tomorrow evening — — — General Williams of the 3^{d} brigade having gone to New York I presumed on issuing an order to the Captain of the second flank company in the 8th regiment (on his application) to lead his company to the choice of an Ensign — — trusting your Excellency will approve the same —

Should any opportunity present, to introduce Col^{o} George L. Perkins (Inspector of Division) into command without a violation of feelings to others — — or without infringing the principles adopted at your board, it would certainly be an acquisition to the Militia — — —

12 °Clock Having written thus far, the mail furnishes me with your Excellencys favor of the 12th with a General Order — — —

Why Capt Grosvenor has not made a return to General Whittlesey I can't say — — I wrote him the last month & requested him to make return of his company to General Whittelsey — — The Genl order respecting Captain Lacey will be forwarded by mail tomorrow morning — — —

I am with esteem and respect
Yours very sincerely
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH

[Endorsed] Adj. Genl 15 Oct. 1816 de choice of officers & returns —

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:151]

NORWICH 17 October 1816

My dear sir

Being disappointed in presenting to your Excellency a com-

plete statement of the military strength of the State, I now inclose a return of three brigades only, which I wish returned at the close of the session — —

As soon as I am furnished with the necessary data, I will complete and forward a return of the whole military strength of the State — — —

Your Excellency will join me in regretting the neglect of the officers in furnishing the usual and necessary returns by the 10th of this month in conformity to custom and orders — —

I am with esteem and respect
very sincerely yours — —
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH
[Endorsed] Adjt Gen. Oct. 17. 1816 de returns —

JUDAH P. BARNARD TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:152]

To his Excellency the Commander in Chief in and over the State of Connectticut

Sir not haveing been for along time in a state of bodily healht and haveing done Millitary Duty for nearly twenty years thought it my Duty to asck for a discharge from further Military Duty If the recommend and the evidance produced Should be sattisfactory to his Excellency. It would give me sattisfaction to have an honorable Discharge from further Millitary Duty.

Sir I remain your Humble Servant
JUDAH P. BARNARD

N.B. If all things considered Should meet his Excellencys approbation, I should wish an answer by Discharge or other wise. By the Representatives for the Town of Simsbury, Dayte at SIMSBURY October 19th 1816

GIDEON HIGGINS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:153]

East Haddam Oct 22nd 1816

To His Excellency John Cotton Smith Esqr — Capt General

Having learnt by His Honor Judge Holmes, that Your Excellency had not received my election in writing I feel surprised & deem it my duty to inform Your Excellency that soon after I was at Sharon I wrote my election & sent it to the Adjutant General By Mail As my case is a singular one perhaps not a nother in the State whare the Capt is seperated from his Brigade by Connecticut River & whare it is attended with so much trouble to do duty. it is frequenty very Bad crossing & in the time of ice it frequently happens that I could not git to My Company for two days without great hazard. If I have a fair & just right to go out under the new organizeation I feel anxious to improve this oppertunity & wish to take the right ground to git clear from further Military duty under the new organizeation which I think I have a perfect right & which is admitted by every Military man that I have conversed with upon the subject since the reorganization (that know my case) But I find it is the growing opinion that I ought to go out by making my election as belonging to the Town of East Haddam and under the new organizeation am included in the 1st Company in the 20th Regt. Although in the reorganizeation there was not any of my company annext to the 1st Company in the 20th Regt but myself it is argued that as I was a resident in East Haddam I could not under the new organizeation be counted as belonging to the company in Haddam Having mad[e] the foregoing remarks I submit it with cheerfulness to Your Excellency to decide

Your Excellency Most Obeidant & Humble Servt
Gideon Higgins Capt of 2nd
Company of 7th Regt

PS for further particulars I refer your Excellency to Silvester Chapman Esqr Representative from East Haddam who I exspect will be the Barrer of this

[Superscribed] His Excellency John Cotton Smith Esqr Capt General New Haven

[Endorsed] Capt. G. Higgins 2 Co. 7. Regt. request for discharge granted after successor appointed &c — order 28 Oct. 1816

SUBSCRIPTION TO FORM MILITIA COMPANY IN POMFRET

[10:154]

We the Subscribers wishing to establish an Extra Flank Company in the 11th Regt. of the Militia of this State, as suggested by his Excellency the Commander in Chief to the Agents of the Town of Pomfret to the Geneal[sic] Assembly now in Session at New haven — — hereto subscribe our names to establish a Light Infantry Company in the said Town of Pomfret — —

Dated at POMFRET 23rd Oct 1816

Officers of the former 7th Co

George Sharpe Ensign

Scarborough Osgood } Serjts
Payson P. Grosvenor } Serjts

George S. Ingals } Corps
Robert Davis Sharpe } Corps
John Adams } Corps
William B Fox } Corps

David Pratt
George Williams
Charles H. Rogers
Nathan Goodell
Jonathan Bennet
Marcus Easterbrooks
Eber Weld
Zadoc Hicks
Stephen Trowbridge
William Shearman
Ephm C. Stowell

William Bennet
Elisha Ingals
Seth Chase 2nd
Schuyler Withey
Erastus Chandler
Caleb Ingals
Nathan Richmond
Thos Field
John Lawton
Jasper Woodworth
Warren Miller
Abishai Pike
Merrich Chamberlain
James Davis
Israel Osgood
Henry Brown
Pliny L. Fox
Smith Kendal
Jabez Benson
Elias Fish

Lester Stowell
Calvin Chamberlain
Isaac King Jr.
Marvin Willson
Parker Wilson
Charles Goodell
Willard Gould
George Gould
Grosvenor Storrs
Alcemon Tyler
Almond Welch
William Edmonds
Amos Weeks
Warren Lyon
Marvin Ingals

William Storrs
Hezekiah Snow
Isaac Lawton
David Hicks Jr
Alfred Rickard
Jere^{h} E. Church
Stephen Randall
Aaron Fisher
Charles Yeomans
Stephen Averill
Pascal Tucker
Walter Lyon 2nd
Lewis Babcock
Jared Bennet
Saml Hartshorn Ayer

The within is a transcript of the Original Subscription four of the Officers belonging to the former Abington Company viz. Captain, Lieutenant, and one Serj^{t} discharged, and one serj^{t} in the Regimental Staff — — so that the within viz Ensign, two Serjts. and four Corporals are all the remaining Officers in the said former Seventh Company. — — — — — — — — — — — —
We shall therefore want directions from his Ex'y about the designation of the Company, Choice of Officers &C

With much Respect
Yours & C George Sharpe

The Hon. Sylvanus Backus Esq.

[Endorsed] Pomfret Association for a Flank Company Rec^{d} 24th Jany 1817

[On inner leaf of the preceeding]

JONATHAN MAY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

Woodstock Decr 9th 1816

To His Excelleny Govr Smith

S^{r} In the new Organization of the Militia the two Company^{s} in Pomfret were put together which has caused considerable uneasiness & inconvenience & by their

wish to have an Extra a flank Co annex^{d} to the reg^{t} so that they may be accomodated & by the request of Judge Ingalls in their behalf for me to certify that the anexed list of names are or have enlisted for that Purpose which I think will be for the good & benefit of the Reg^{t} I accordingly Certify that the same can be made a flank Comp & anexed to s^{d} Reg^{t} if you think proper

Yours &C
JONATHAN MAY Col^{o} of the 11th Reg^{t}

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:155]

NORWICH 26th October 1816

My dear sir

Inclosed your Excellency will receive a copy of General Palmers returns, which I have transcribed for your perusal — — — I hope before long to transmit a return of the whole militia. The following deficiencies prevent me from doing so at this time — — —

The 1st brigade hath made no return
The 2^{d} and 3^{d} brigades are completed
The 4th brigade hath omitted the 24th regt — —& made no return of officers names — —
The 5th brigade hath made no returns of officers names
The 6th brigade hath made no returns of officers names
The Artillery Brigade hath made *no return* of the 3^{d} regt of Horse Artillery
The Cavalry hath made no return of Officers names of 3^{d} & 5th regiment
The Rifle Corps (not being organized) hath not made return — — —

I have written circulars to the Officers commanding brigades urging a completion of their returns — — — — —

I hope your Excellency will excuse my calling your attention to the Artillery Company in Griswold commanded by Capt

Lester, the company is full & hath been about six months, they are without a piece of artillery; the Norwich & New London companies have each of them two pieces, & I think might either of them spare a piece without inconveniency — — — — —

May I remind your excellency of the accommodation to me to have the returns sent back to me when you leave New Haven — — —

Mrs Huntington presents her respects to Mrs Smith & yourself, and joins me most sincerely in the wish, that *pleasure or business* may induce you to make us a visit at Norwich — — — —with much regard and esteem,

I am yours very sincerely — —
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH
[Endorsed] Adjt Gen. Oct. 1816 de returns

SUBSCRIPTION FOR SOUTHINGTON RIFLE COMPANY

[10:156]

The subscribers being inhabitants of the towns of Southington and Berlin do hereby associate ourselves for the purpose of forming a company of Rifle men to be attached to the Rifle corps of the State of Connecticut, to be raised and organized according to the Statute of said State on that subject provided — — and to be subject to the command of his Excellency the Captain General of said State

JAMES SMITH Junr
SALMON UPSON
ZEBULON BYINGTON
ABRAM DOOLITTLE
ELIHU SMITH
LEVI UPSON
JONATHAN S COWLES
SETH CURTIS
WILLIAM COWLES Drummer

HIRAM PRIEST
CIRUS HITCHCOCK

[Endorsed] Association in Southington for a Rifle Company rec^{d} 28th Oct. '16 To be considered —

SUBSCRIPTION FOR SOUTHINGTON RIFLE COMPANY

[10:157]

The subscribers being inhabitants of the towns of Southington and Berlin do hereby Associate for the purpose of forming a Company of Riflemen to be attached to the Rifle Core in the State of Connecticut (to be raised and organized according to the Statute on that Subject provided) and to be subject to the Command of his Excellency the Captain General of Said State

— —

James Smith Jr
Salmon Upson
Zebulon Byington
Abram Doolittle
Elihu Smith
Salmon Upson
Jonathan S. Cowles
Seth Curtis
William Cowles
Hiram Priest
Cyrus Hitchcock
Dyer Pearl
Nathan Holbrook Jr
Lory Stedman
John Bunnel
Jesse Studley X
Sylvester R. Atkins
John E. Jones
Reuben Tyler
Alvin Clark
Joshua Newhall

Owen Pearl X
Romeo Francis X
Cyprian Mather X
Phinehas Penfield Jr X
Joseph Eddy X
John Penfield
Jesse Ricor
John Bunce
Sidney Stedman X
Samuel Ricor
Ezra Carter X
Moses D. Seymour
Bera Hart
Cyrus Booth
Sheldon Upson X
Wakeman N. Stanley
Ralph S. Cornwell
Abel Penfield X
Stephen Hart 3^{d}
William Eddy
John Ricor X

Allen Dutton
James Crissey X
Seth Peck
Chauncey Hart 2nd
Solomon Rugg
Eli Pratt X
Micah Rugg
Jesse Hart
Nathaniel Penfield Jr X
Warner B. Clark X
Ansel Stocking X
Saxa Hooker X
William Stocking X

N.B. The names from the beginning to the name of Owen Pearl inclusive belong to Southington — The names from Romeo Francis to the name of Warner B. Clark inclusive, belong to the Parish of Britain in the town of Berlin — The remaining three names belong to the Parish of Kensington in said Berlin — Those names marked X thus belonged to the late 10th Company of State troops — The 1st and 3d name are not subjects of Military duty

[Endorsed] Names of Men forming an Association for a Rifle Company in Southington

SUBSCRIPTION FOR SOUTHINGTON RIFLE COMPANY

[10:158]

The Subscribers being inhabitants of the towns of Southington and Berlin do hereby associate for the purpose of forming a company of Riflemen to be attached to the Rifle corps of the State of Connecticut to be raised and organized according to the Statute on that Subject provided — —And to be subject to the command of his Excellency the Captain General of Said State

Dyer Pearl
Nathan Holbrook Jur
Lowrey Stedman
John Bunnel
Jesse Studly
Sylvester R. Atkins
John E. Jones
Reuben Tyler

Alvin Clark
Joshua Newhull
Allen Dutton
James Crissey
Seth Peck

SUBSCRIPTION FOR SOUTHINGTON RIFLE COMPANY

[10:159]

The subscribers being inhabitants of the towns of Southington and Berlin do hereby Associate for the purpose of forming a Company of Riflemen to be attached to the Rifle Corps of the State of Connecticut (to be raised and organized according to the Statute on that subject provided) And to be subject to the Command of his Excellency the Captain General of said State

Chauncey Hart 2nd
Solomon Rugg
Eli Pratt
Micah Rugg

SUBSCRIPTION FOR SOUTHINGTON RIFLE COMPANY

[10:160]

The subscribers being inhabitants of the towns of Southington & Berlin do hereby associate for the purpose of forming a Company of Riflemen to be attached to the Rifle Corps of the state of Connecticut to be raised & organized according to the statute one the subject provided — & to be subject to the Command of his Excellency the Captain General of sd state

X Orrin Pearl
X Romeo Francis
X Cyprian Mather
X Phinehas Penfield Jr
X Joseph Eddy
John Penfield
Ralph S Cornwells
X Abel Penfield
Stephen Hart
Wm Eddy
X John Ricar
Jesse Hart

Jesse Ricar
John Bunil
X Sidney Stedman
Samuel Ricar
X Ezra Carter
Moses D Seymour
Bera Hart
Cyrus Booth
X Shelden Upson
Wakeman N. Stanley
X Ansel Stocking
X Saxa Hooker
X Wm Stocking
X Nathaniel Penfield Jr
X Warner B Clark
17 men taken from the muster *roll in Britain*
Muster Roll in Britain is 97
Rank & file

MUSTER ROLL OF COMPANY IN SOUTHINGTON

[10:161]

Muster Roll of the 5th Company 14 Regiment Militia

Stephen Walkly, Lieut
Riley Tisdale, Ensign

Serjeants

Isaac Shepard
Theodore Byington
Cromwell Newell
Carney Johnson

Corporals

John E. Jones
Harry Harrison
Levi Upson

Music

Jonas Matthews
Daniel Sloper

Privates

Arnold Atwater
John D. Andrews
Curtis Andrews
Adna Johnson 2nd
Oliver More
Marcus Merriman
Anson Merriman
Leonard Merriman
Rogers Merriman
Ezra Merriman
Sebra Merriman
Albert Merriman
Stephen Merriman
Freeman Morse
Herman Matthews
Amasa Matthews
Mark Newell 2nd
Albern Neal
John Neal Jr
Joshua Newell
Amos C. Ovit
Abram Pritchard
Ebenezer Plant
Seth Peck
John Porter

Phineas Atwater
Sylvester Atkins
Chittenden Byington
William Baldwin
John E. Benjamin
Martin Blakesley
Laban Blakesley Jr
Virgil S. Blair 6 Mo.
John Bunnel
Ramsel Brackett
Beebe Barns
Chauncy Buck
Chester Capps
Erastus Curtiss
Levi B. Cogswell
Roswell Cook
Robert Cook
George W. Cowles
Aroma Clark 6 M.
Alvin Clark
James Crissey
Amzi Douglass
Asa Darrow
Jason Dexter
Benoni Evans
Levi B. Frost
Newman Finch
Ranson Frisbie
Erastus Gridley
Asa Grannis
Levi Hart
Franklin Hitchcock
John Howd
Newton Hart
Nathan Holbrook Jr
Abina Hemmingway
Salmon Hitchcock
Eli Pratt
Owen Pearl
Dyer Pearl
Samuel Reed
Michael Rugg
Solomon Rugg
James Root
Caleb Savage
Riley Smith
Seth K. Smith
Jesse Studley
Levi Smith
Reuben Tyler
Jesse Thorp
Caleb Thorp
Reuben Thorp Jr
Jared Tyler
Salmon Upson
Asahel Upson
John Youngs
Iram Wakeley
Zard Warden

Six Months men

Hiram Priest
Abram Doolittle
Jonathan S. Cowles
Alpheus S. Bracket
Cyrus Hitchcock
James Andrews
Seth Curtis
James Wightman
Justus Judd
Joel Neal
Harvey Guess
Edwin Gridley
Orrin Pardee

Benoni Hotchkiss
Elijah G. Hull
Chauncey Hart 2nd
Harmon Hitchcock
Miles Hotchkiss
Horace Hotchkiss
Edward Hart
Samuel Hart Jr
Joel Kelsey
Barzillai Lee
John Langdon
Seth Lewis
Jotham Judd
Adna Johson
Leverit Johnson
Merriman Johnson
Carlos Curtis
Selah Lewis Jr
Lory Stedman
Oliver Meshanel
Zenas Darvin
Romanta Hart
Aroma Tuttle
William Barrett 2nd
Lyman Woodruff
Asahel Lewis 2nd
Pomroy Newell 2nd
Allen Dutton
Jesse Cogwell
Sheldon Woodruff
Joseph Davis
Isaac Woodruff

The foregoing is a Copy of muster roll of the 5 Compy 14 Regiment belonging to Southington all of which except about ten men I am personally acquainted with and know that they are residents in Southington and with a very few exceptions are subjects of Military duty

Owen Pearl

N.B. The muster roll of the L.I. Company in Southington is 74 non Commissioned officers musicians & privates and none taken from it to form a Rifle Company

[Endorsed] Copy of the Muster Roll 5 Company 14 Regt Militia

PERSONS DOING MILITARY DUTY IN BERLIN

[10:162]

Copy of Names of Persons who did Military duty in Capt Seth J Norths Company in Berlin 1816:

John Clark
Benj. Slater
Ebenr Andrus
Horace Butler
Ozias Hart
Jerre Hart 2nd
Bera Hart
Elijah Hull

Norman Hart
Horace Wells
Ira Hartley
Seth Lusk Jr
Wm. Street Jr
Chester Penfield
Selah Andrews
Joseph Andrews
Elijah Andrews
Sol° Butler
Joel Belden
Wm Bassitt
Cyrus Booth
Cyprian Bronson
John Bunce
Elias Blinn
Henry Brown
Benj. Caldwell
Sol° Churchill Jr
Geo Cromwell
Chauncey Cromwell
Dan[l] S. Curtis
Chauncey Clark
Ezra Carter
Sam[l] O Coy
Wm Eddy
Jos. Eddy
Jos. W Flagg
Jos. Francis Jr.
Warren Fraser
Linus Gilbert
Raphael Gilbert
Reuben Gladdin
Oliver Hart
Ziba Hayden
Alvin Hayden
James Judd
Amzi Judd
Allen Judd
Dan[l] Judd Jr.
Cyprian Mather
Alvin North
Leicester Osgood
Abel Penfield
Phineas J Penfield
Nath[l] Penfield
John Penfield
John Pearson
John Ricar
Henry Root
Otis Robinson
Wakeman N. Hart
Amos Stanly
Jesse Stanley
Leicester Smith
Avery Steel
Roswell Steel
Josiah Steel Jr.
Hiram Stoddard
Solomon Steel
Moses D. Seymour
Sheldon Upson
Hezekiah C Whipple
Truman Winchell
Francis Hart
Chester Hart
74

This is a Copy of the Certificate that the Commanding Officer of the Company in Britain returned to the Listers

in Berlin. — — The muster roll is 97
Rank & file

This may Certify that the above named Persons have done Military duty for the year Past
According to Law

JONATHAN BELDEN JR Lieut.

[Endorsed] Copy of Military Exempts in Britain — —

BARACK SMITH AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:163]

To His Excelleny John Cotton Smith Esquire Capt General in and over the State of Connecticut: The memorial of Barock Smith, Joseph Bedlow, Marvin Orcut, Walter James, Zuingliers Bullard J^r, Reuben Preston, Josiah Richards, Abijah Richards, Deca Spalding, Samuel Sumner J^r, Palmer Willson, Palmer Howard, Chester Lumis and Duty Fitts all of Ashford in the County of Windham respectfully sheweth that they are subjects of Military duty and before the reorganization law they were, and by the General order of Augt 15 still are members of the Grenadier Company formerly attached or annexced to that Reg^t denominated by the old law the 5th Reg^t and by the Reorganization annexced to the present 5th Regiment. Your memorialists would further represent that before the promulgation of the General order of Augt 15. they each and every of them enlisted into a Company of Grenadiers in the town of Ashford now annexed to the 23^d Reg^t and have performed their duty in said last Company as faithfull soldiers not knowing but they had a right so to do. That it is much more convenient for them to belong to said last mentioned Company Wherefore they pray Your Excellency to take their case into consideration and transfer each and every of them from said fifth Reg^t and annex them to the said 23^d Reg^t thereby confirming their said enlistment into said Ashford Grenadiers Company and your Excellency's Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Dated at ASHFORD this 30th day of October 1816 —

Zuingliers Bullard J^R	Duty Fitts
Reuben Preston	Barak Smith
Palmer Willson	Joseph Bedlow
Deca Spalding	Walter Janes
Palmer Howard	Josiah Richards
Samuel Sumner Jr.	Abijah Richards
Chester Lumis	Marvin Orcut

I Harvey Fuller Capt of the Grenadiers in the 5th Reg^t (reorganization) certify that I have read the foregoing Petition and hope the pray therof may be granted.

Harvey Fuller

P.S. Please to send the order to A.T. Judson Canterbury by Mail

We Andrew T. Judson and Asahel Hammond Majors of the 5th Regiment. Con. Militia certify that we have read the foregoing petition and hope the prayer therof may be granted.

Andrew T. Judson
Asahel Hammond

[Superscribed] His Excellency John C. Smith Esqr Sharon Ashford Nov 5

[Endorsed] Barack Smith & others of Ashford. Granted — order sent. to Adj. Genl 14. Nov. 1816

BACKUS W. BIRGE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:164]

May it Please Your Excellency,

As the enclosed Certificate states, I enlisted into the first Company of Your Excellencys foot Guards, and with much pleasure have done my tour of Military duty in that Corps — —

Yet notwithstanding this, haveing been transient in this Town the past Season, have been call^d upon to appear on Parade for Military Duty, and for non appearance have been summoned before the board of Officers of this Regiment and fined — —

I have shown the enclosed certificate, and laid my excuse before them — — It all avails me nothing, The answer was

"You may appeal to the Captain General" If, therefore, after a perusal of the above statement Your Excellency should see fit to grant, Please to favour me with a certificate which will be sufficient to liberate me from this fine — —

I am Sir Most Respectfully
Your Excellency's Obt Servent
BACKUS W. BIRGE

JOHN COTTON SMITH esq
NORFOLK Nov. 4-1816
P.S. — Please to return the enclosed — —
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Sharon Conn Norfolk Ct Novr 4
[Endorsed] Backus W. Birge 4. Nov. 1816 answd 19th that all fines are remitted &c — —

ROGER BAILEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:165]

LEBANON Ct November 12th 1816

His Excellency Governour Smith

Sir

In consequence of the Hon[l] General Assembly at there late session in appointing me to be Major of the 2nd Regiment of Cavalry in this State leaves the 3rd Compy in said Regiment destitute of a Captain — Should your Excellency deem it expediant to have the Company lead to the Choice of a Captain — and fill all other Vacancies that may happen in consequence of Such Choice and will send me an order — by Mail, *as it will come Post free* to lead said 3rd Company to a Choice such an order — will [be] faithfully attended to — and ever remain your Excellency Most Obediant

Servant —
ROGER BAILEY Late Capt
3rd Company in 2nd Regt
Cavalry

[Superscribed] His Excellency Govenour SMITH Sharon Ct

Lebanon Ct November 12th Free Roger Bailey Post Master
[Endorsed] Major R. Bailey 12. Nov. 1816 answd & order sent 16th

DANIEL B. BRINSMADE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:166]

WASHINGTON Nov. 13th 1816

Sir

I am sorry to trouble you any farther with the concerns of my Regiment. But the 3d Company commanded by Archibald Mosher to whom you gave an order to lead his company to choice of a Capt which choice was set aside on account of illegallity in said Moshers proceedings during the session of the Legislature — feel very ansious to get rid of their Capt and have sent to me requesting me to write to your Excellency on the Subject. If it would be consistent for you to give a new order I think it would be an advantage for the Company to be led to a choice of officers this fall — Capt Mosher is expecting shortly to leave Plymouth for the southward and as there has been difficulty in the company regarding the choice which was set aside I think the sooner it is done the better — — —The bearer hereof — a Son of Genl Potter of Plymouth can give you all the information you may wish — In haste I am

Sir your Excellencys humble
Servt DANL B BRINSMADE

His Excellency JNO C. SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] Colo Brinsmade Nov. 1816 — de choice of a Captain &c order issued &c —

[laid inside the preceeding letter: handwriting of John Cotton Smith]

Whereas you have heretofore been directed by my order to lead the troop under your command to the choice of a Captain in your room & stead (it having appeared to me proper to dis-

charge you at your request after your successor should have been appointed & commissioned — And whereas the choice made by the troop under the order above mentioned has been set aside and annulled by the Honourable the General Assembly at their session in October last — I do therefore hereby direct that you cause the said troop [letter unfinished]

GENERAL ORDERS

[10:167]

State of Connecticut
General orders

Novr 14. 1816

On the representation of Baruck Smith, Joseph Bedlow, Marvin Orcut, Walter Janes, Zuingliers Bullard Jr., Reuben Preston, Josiah Richards, Abijah Richards, Deca Spalding, Samuel Sumner J^{r}, Palmer Willson, Palmer Howard, Chester Lumis and Duty Fitts of Ashford, shewing that they are members of the first flank company in the 5th regiment of infantry that it would be more convenient for them to be annexed to the second flank company in the 23^{d} regiment within the limits of which as ascertained by the general order of the 15th & as represented they now reside & praying they may be transferred to said flank company in sd 23rd regiment into which company from misapprehension they had already enlisted — And the captain of said first flank company with two of the field officers in said 5th regiment having expressed their assent to the proposed arrangement,

It is ordered by the Commander in chief, that the individuals first above named be & they are hereby transferred from the first flank company in the 5th regiment to the second flank company in the 23rd regiment and that their enlistment therein be & the same is hereby confirmed —

By order of the commander in chief

[Endorsed] General Orders de Flank comp^{y} 23. Reg^{t} — &c 14 Nov. 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[10:168]

SHARON 16. Nov. 1816

Dr Sir —

The enclosed order will sufficiently explain itself — It will probably be best to *send it* to the Brigadier Gen[l] of the 5th brigade with instructions to transmit copies to the colonels of the two regiments concerned — The petitioners particularly requested that the order might be sent to Major (now L[t] Col.) And[w] Judson who has interested himself in their behalf — I will therefore thank you to either send him a copy or drop him a line acquainting him with its purport —

As the law now requires the secretary to furnish you with a list of promotions &c I think it advisable that you take the earliest opportunity of transmitting to the new general officers copies of the general order relative to the discharge of commissioned & staff officers —

A resolution passed the legislature authorizing the Capt. Gen[l] to create (if he deemed it necessary to the welfare of the militia) more than two flank companies to a regiment & to *locate* them. This power should indeed be cautiously exercised, but I apprehend it will enable us in one or two cases to remove serious difficulties — The society of Millington are much aggrieved — I have encouraged them with the prospect of their being allowed a flank company in that parish, provided the Society of New Salem can with propriety form the limits of a battalion company including such in Millington as do not join, or may not be wanted for, a flank company — It appears, by the way, that New Salem extends into Lyme, a fact overlooked by us & consequently that particular section has not been covered by the new organization — Be pleased to inquire & report to me whether a reputable battalion company can be made out of the whole of New Salem without materially affecting other companies now extending their limits into that society —

Your favour of the 4th instant (dated by mistake 4th Oct.) is

received — The *two sergeants* will not of themselves be quite sufficient for a rifle company — by your representation I perceive no chance of forming one from any other materials in that quarter —

The enclosed original returns ought to have been sent to you with the others from N. Haven, but were mislaid amist a mass of papers which were accumulated upon my table during the session — I am sorry to add that the return of a choice of officers in the Rifle company at Griswold &c. came in the same package & consequently shared the same fate — The latter return however is now in my hands — altho' commissions cannot issue until the next session yet the date of their rank will not be thereby affected — In the mean time pursuant to power vested in me for such purposes I enclose an order authorizing the officers elect to act until the rising of the Assembly in May next —

I am &c — &c — —

Ad. Gen[l] HUNTINGTON

[Endorsed] To Ad. General 16. Nov. 1816 de gen[l] order &c —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ISAAC D. BULL

[10:169]

SHARON 16. Nov. 1816

Sir —

At the last General assembly the committee appointed to receive military returns made a special report relative to the choice of officers in the first company of Governour's foot guards — They recommended that commissions be issued to the Major commandant & the subaltern elected under the order but stated that they knew no law nor usage which would justify them in recommending that the intermediate subalterns should be advanced & commissioned conformably to the intimation contained in your returns — This report was accepted in the House of representatives and came to the Upper House on the last day of the Session — There was not time to search for precedents — nor had the secretary such documents with him as would enable us to settle the question satisfactorily — I however communi-

cated to the Council my impression that you had stated the usage correctly and advised them to continue the report rather than to concern in what I deemed a departure from a long established course — The report was accordingly continued to the next session —

Its acceptance in my opinion must have produced the effect of advancing the Lieut last chosen to the place of Capt. Goodwin promoted — than which I presume however worthy the candidate nothing could be more distant from the views of the company —

Under these circumstances Sir you are to be considered as the legal commandant until the final decision of the legislature in the [measure?] At the same time in consideration of the very honourable & satisfactory manner in which you have uniformly executed the duties of that office I shall be disposed to allow you, if you desire it, to devolve occasionally the actual command upon the Major elect.

I am &c —

Major Isaac D. Bull
[Endorsed] To Major Bull

SAMUEL C. SELDEN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:170]

Lyme November 18th 1816

Sir —

I was appointed under the late organization of the Militia of this State to command the Second Flank Company in the 3d Regiment — There are at present three Battalion Companies in the Town of Lyme — but only one however which has more than the number of Soldiers designated by law, as composing a full Company & I find it wholly impracticable to enlist a Flank Company, without permission to enlist from such Companies in sd Town of Lyme as do not contain more than the number of Soldiers designated by law, to make full Companies —— If your Excellency should not deem it improper I would therefore request your Excellency to grant permission, together with proper

orders for enlisting sd Flank Company from all or any of the Companies in sd Town of Lyme

I am Your Excellency's
Obdt & very Humble Servt
SAMUEL C. SELDEN

To His Excellency
JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq

N.B. Should your Excellency think proper to issue orders for enlisting as aforesaid — I would thank your Excellency to direct the Same to the Post Office in East Haddam

[Superscribed] To His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH, Esqr Sharon Lyme Con 27th Novm

[Endorsed] Capt. Saml C. Selden 18. Nov. 1816 recd 3 Decr answd 6th

JOSEPH EATON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:171]

PLAINFIELD Novr 19th 1816

To his Excellency John C Smith Esq

Dr sir

I have in my hands the Record of the minutes and proceedings of a Court Marshall held in our Brigade by order of Genl Salter — I write to request your Excellency to inform me if it is usual to transmit it by mail — or as it is very voluminous, if I should send it to Hartford that there would be any mode in which it might be transmitted to your Excellency — To me at this Time it would be impossible without great inconvenience to deliver it in person at your house ——

I am sir with great Respect
your most obedient & humble Sert
JOSEPH EATON

[Superscribed] To his Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esquire Capt Genl Sharon Ct Canterbury Nov 18

[Endorsed] Jos. Eaton Esqr 19. Nov. 1816 — answd 23. Nov. 1816 directing him to send by mail &c.

JOHN BOUND TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:172]

MIDDLETOWN 26 Nover 1816.

sir,

I have to inform your Excellency, that on the 9th Inst. I was elected Captn of the 1st Compy in the 2d Regiment, of Riflemen, in the place and stead of Lemuel G Storrs Esq, promoted to the Lieutenant Colonelcy of Sd Regiment. I therefore take the liberty of requesting of your Excellency, an Order, directing me to act as such; agreeable to a Resolve of the General Assembly in October session last, (a copy of which I hereunto annex) — which if correct and agreeable, please direct to

your Excellencys
mo obt servt
JOHN BOUND

His excy JOHN C. SMITH.

"At a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, holden at New Haven in sd State, on the 2d Thursday of October 1816 — —

Resolved, by this Assembly, That all officers chosen under Legal Authory in any Enlisted Company of Militia, shall by direction of the Commander in Chief, be authorised to act as such, though no commission shall have been issued to them, untill the rising of the General Assembly in May next. &c"

[Superscribed] His Excy JOHN C SMITH Sharon Ct

[Endorsed] Capt. Jno Bound 26 Novr 1816 answd 2. Decr order enclosed —

ABEL MCEWEN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:173]

NEW LONDON Nov. 26th 1816.

Sir,

The communication, with which you have been pleased to honour me, came to my house, when I was absent, on a journey. This curcumstance is my apology for so much delay in my reply.

My best endeavours shall be made to prepare myself for the service, which is assigned to me, in the event of Mr. Pyneo's failure.

With the highest respect,
I have the honour to be
Your Excellency's obedient
& very humble ser^{vt}
ABEL M^{C}EWEN

His Excellency, JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esqr Sharon
[Endorsed] Rev^{d} M^{r} McEwen acceptance as substitute

THOMAS DAY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[10:174]

HARTFORD Novr 26. 1816.

Dear sir,

I send herewith, for your Excellency's signature and seal, a Certificate annexed to copies of the Resolution appointing Electors. I shall add my official authentication under the Seal of the State, when the papers return. The Electors will then complete the documents which are to be transmitted to Congress.

With the highest respect
your friend & ob^{t} serv^{t}
THOMAS DAY

Govr SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] Sec^{y} Day 26 Novr 1816 answ^{d} 30th

ISAAC D. BULL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:1]

HARTFORD Novem^{r} 22^{d}. . . 1816 — — —

Sir

I receivd this day your Excellency' letter of 16th Inst — conveying to me very unpleasant information respecting the Officers of the first Company of Governours foot Guards — — — —

The view taken by your Excellency in relation to the report

of the committee, and the course pursued, were in my opinion were both correct — but so far as the decision respects myself I have been inform'd by one of our Representatives at the late General Assembly, that all the Officers were not to be commission'd in conformity with my report, yet he further stated to me, that the Major elect, and the Ensign as designated by the Company were to receive their Commissions — — In conformity with this representation I have already given up the command to the Major elect and made such arrangements in my affairs in relation to it, that holding either an entire or conditional command of the Company, would occasion to me *great* and *serious* inconvenience and *much detriment* to the Company — — — —

Fully believing that the interests of the Company, & state, would be benefited by my *unconditional* and *immediate* discharge from the Command, I have earnestly to request that the same may be granted me — — — —

I have also to request, you will be pleased to accept my thanks for the honourable mention you are pleased to make of my past services, in discharging the duties devolving on me as Commandant of the Company — — which to my feelings, is the best recompense I could receive for the many sacrifices accruing to me, during the time of their performance — —

I am Sir
with the greatest respct
Your Excell^{s} most Obed^{t} Servt
ISAAC D. BULL

His Excell^{y} Gover^{r} SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excel^{y} JOHN C. SMITH Esquire Sharon
[Endorsed] Major I. D. Bull 22. Novr. 1816 — answ^{d}. 2. Dec^{r}

NATHAN JOHNSON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:2]

HARTFORD Novr. 27. 1816

D^{r}. Sir

I take the liberty to inform your Excellency that our respected friend Col^{o}. Jared Scarborough died on Monday morn-

ing and is this day to be interred. Having been with him and conversant with his concerns in his last sickness I was led to take some notice of the papers pertaining to his office as Q^r^. M. Genl.

It struck me as important that some person be directed to collect those papers and hold them for his successor. They may be lost or mislaid by his executors. If it would not be improper I would suggest whether Co^l^. Ward would not be the most suitable person as he has some knowledge of the business of that department

There are some accounts that ought to be settled and which have been delayed by the indisposition of Co^l^. Scarborough, but whether they can now be closed or not I cannot determine.

Ever ready to render any service to your Excellency, I am

with high respect & esteem
your Excellency's
most Obedient
& humble Servant
NATHAN JOHNSON

[Superscribed] His Excell^y^. JOHN C. SMITH Esqr. Sharon Con^t^.

[Endorsed] Col. N. Johnson Novr. 1816 de death of Col. Scarborough

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:3]

HARTFORD Novr. 27. 1816 — — —

My Dear Sir

I lament the necessity of informing Your Excellency that Colonel Jared Scarborough died the day before yesterday of a rapid consumption —

I am informed by Col^o^, Johnson that in consequence of this event there are some things in the Quarter Master Generals department requiring immediate attention — —

M^r^. Henry Hudson of this city, has intimated to me, that he should be pleased to become M^r^. Scarboroughs successor — I believe that Gentleman would perform the duties of a Quartermaster General with fidelity & skill — —

If it should please Your Excellency to nominate M^r^. Hudson he will be gratify^d^ — But as he is personally known to you, any recommendations will be needless — — —

Our friends are in usual health — —Please to remember with respect to your Love and accept a large share to yourself — — —

Your obed^t^. Servant

Jos. Trumbull

[Superscribed] His Excellency John Cotton Smith Sharon

[Endorsed] Col. Trumbull 27. Novr. 1816 de death of Q. M. General

BEZALEEL PINNEO TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:4]

Milford Nov 29. 1816

May it please your Excellency,

I received your Excellency's Letter in a time of deep affliction — It has pleased God to remove from me my beloved wife in the midst of her days and usefulness — This event took place the 5th of this month — since which I have been confined for a season by bodily indisposition — — This is my apology for not sooner addressing your Excellency — —

The duty your Excelleny has assigned me I consider as very important, and my habitual infirmities might be considered a sufficient reason for my requesting to be excused from undertaking it; but as the gentleman who is designated as my substitute will doubtless be able and prepared to supply my place should I fail, I consent to accept of your Excellency's appointment of Preacher at the next Anniversary Election — —

Be assured, Honored Sir, of my best wishes and constant prayers for your health and prosperity — —

With the highest respect and esteem
I am your Excellency's most
obedient and humble servant
Beza: Pinneo

His Excellency
JOHN COTTON SMITH Esquire.
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr
Sharon Milford 30 Nov^{r}.
[Endorsed] Rev^{d}. M^{r}. PINNEO Acceptance as Preacher —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO HEZEKIAH GODDARD

[11:5]

SHARON 30. Novr. 1816 —

Sir —

I have this day received a letter from the Rev^{d}. Henry Channing stating that arrears of rent are due him for the small building in N. London which was occupied during the late war as a magazine — and also that possession of the premisies is still retained in behalf of the state by the Q. M. General or by yourself as his Assistant, —

As I am just informed of the death of Col. Scarborough the late Q. M. General, I must request you will communicate to me whatever facts may rest in your knowledge relative to this subject — And particularly whether possession of the building is still designedly held for the use of the State? whether any public property is now remaining in it? in short why the Q. M. General considered it expedient to hold the occupation of the premises for any length of time after the termination of the war?

Your reply at an early day will much oblige

Sir your ob^{t}. & hum. Ser^{t}.

Major GODDARD —
[Endorsed] To Major Goddard 30. Novr. 1816 — de magazine at N. London An answer rec^{d}. under date of 7th. Dec^{r}. —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO [THOMAS DAY]

[11:6]

SHARON 30. Novr. 1816 —

D^{r}. Sir —

I herewith return the certificates perfected in the manner you proposed —

You will have received by mail and also by Gen[l]. Sterling certificates to the same effect — On examining the act of Congress it appeared to me the certificate of the executive should itself comprize the names of the electors but I do not know that this circumstance is at all material — The electors will take either of the forms as shall be most agreeable to them — Should they prefer those already forwarded it will be easy to annex thereto the resolutions of the legislature authenticated by your signature & the seal of the state —

In the course of the year 1813 (I think) a resolution passed the Assembly authorizing the Q. M. General to hire a small stone building in N. London for a temporary magazine or place of deposit for arms & military stores — Will you have the goodness to send me at an early day a copy of that resolve? —

I am D[r]. Sir sincerely your friend &
ob[t]. Ser[t]. —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO MAJOR ISAAC D. BULL

[11:7]

SHARON 2. Dec[r]. 1816

D[r]. Sir

From the representation contained in your letter of the 22nd. ultimo I am inclined to grant the discharge you request, and it is accordingly enclosed —

The command of the company will of course devolve upon Major Goodwin the commandant elect, inasmuch as he is the senior officer independently of the late choice — I feel personally gratified that you have so worthy a successor —

With very great regard & esteem & am D[r]. Sir
Your obedient & humble servant

Major BULL

[on back]

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

At the request of Major Isaac D. Bull, and in consideration of his faithful services, an honourable discharge is hereby granted him from the command of the first company of Governour's Foot Guards —

In testimony whereof I John Cotton Smith Governour & commander in chief in and over the State of Connecticut have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Seal the second day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixteen and in the forty first year of the Independence of the United States of America —

J. C. S

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

[11:8]

SHARON 2. Decr. 1816

Dear Sir

I have received a letter from M^r. John Bound of your city informing me that he is elected Captain of the 1. Company 2. Reg^t. of Riflemen, in the place of L^t. Col. Storrs, and requesting authority to act as such until the rising of the General Assembly in May next. *He has also forwarded a copy of the resolution passed by the legislature on the subject.* — — Instead of sending me this document, he should have transmitted proper evidence *of his election.* — As the order for a choice must have emanated from you, it is my desire that on being satisfied of the fairness of the proceedings under it you will issue orders, as by my direction, for the Captain elect, and the subalterns also if any are newly chosen, to discharge the duties appertaining to their respective stations until the rising of the next General Assembly.

I am D^r. Sir sincerely your
obedient servant
J. C. SMITH — —

N. B. If you have pleased yourself with a model for the Rifle,

and also with a suitable colour & fashion for the uniform, be so good as to send me a minute description of each —
B. General WHITTELSEY — —
[Endorsed] To Gen[l]. Whittelsey & Capt. J[no]. Bound —

[on back]

To Captain John Bound

SHARON 2. Dec[r]. 1816

Sir

I enclose instructions to B. General Whittelsey on the subject of your letter of the 26th ult[o]. and

am Sir your ob[t]. sert —

J. C. S — —

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:9]

NORWICH 2[d] December 1816

My dear sir

By the receipt of Colonel Halls returns of the third regiment of Horse Artillery on saturday — I am now in possession of all the returns, excepting from the Rifle Corps — which from being incomplete, I have not, nor can I reasonably expect a return — — — I designedly omit to complete & forward to your excellency the state of the militia exclusive of the Rifle Corps, until I hear from you — — — — Your Excellency may possibly have seen in the speech of Governour Brooks, that he had received a communication from Secretary Munroe, that a distribution of Arms was about to be made to the States, without any information as to the principle by which that distribution would be made — — — — — Unwilling to exhibit a smaller total than the truth would justify, & being obliged to transmit copies of the military returns to the department of War, permit me to ask directions from your Excellency for my conduct, presuming the military returns will be the criterion by which the apportionment will be made — — —

I presume your Excellency hath before this time, been informed of the death of Colonel Scarborough who died last week on tuesday — — — — his indisposition was the cause of his not complying with your Excellencys order respecting field pieces (I presume 10) & not furnishing the company in Griswold — — — — If your Excellency should not make an appointment soon, may I not hope that you may deem it expedient to direct that one of the pieces at New London be taken for the use of the Griswold Company — — — The letter rec[d] from your Excellency at the close of October session, has been duly attended to; that part of it relative to a flank C[o] at Millington has not been neglected — — I have written to Col[o] Deming to obtain a knowledge of facts, when his answer arrives I will communicate the same, until which time I can not probably determine on any thing satisfactory to myself — — — Judge Holmes called on me last week on the subject, and appears to feel an interest in the issue — — — — — — — — —

Accept the respects and good wishes of M[rs] H & myself for M[rs] Smith & believe me with much respect & esteem

yours very sincerely — — —

EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon Conn[t]

[Endorsed] Ad. Gen[l]. Huntington

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SAMUEL C. SELDEN

[11:10]

SHARON 3. Dec[r]. 1816

Sir —

Your letter is received — Previous to granting the enlisting orders you request it seems to be necessary that I should be informed what number of recruits you require to fill the ranks of the company under your command — as also the strength of the battalion companies from which you propose to obtain recruits — Otherwise it will not be in my power to ascer-

tain & fix the proportions contemplated by the law — — If you have made no progress in forming the flank company, it may deserve consideration whether the interest of the regiment will be promoted by commencing it especially if two of the battalion companies in Lyme as you represent are already below their legal complement — Be pleased therefore to give me a full statement of every circumstance calculated to throw any light upon the subject —

I am Sir your obt. sert.

Capt. S. C. Selden — Lyme — —

THOMAS DAY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:11]

Hartford Decemr. 4. 1816.

Dear sir,

The Certificates forwarded by mail, those sent by Gen1. Sterling, and the papers returned by Perkins, have all been recd. and are now before the Electors.

I send herewith a copy of the Resolve to which I suppose you allude in your last letter.

I have lately taken from the Post Office, and deposited in the Secretary's office, three sets of the late edition of the Laws of U. S. in 4 vols.; three copies of Laws of Delaware passed in 1816; and three copies of Laws of New-Hampshire passed June 1816.

Very respectfully
Your obedt servt
Thomas Day

Govr. Smith — —

[Superscribed] His Excellency John Cotton Smith Governour Sharon Gen1. Sterling

[Endorsed] Secy Day Decr. 4th 1816 de Arsenal at N. London — laws U. S. &c. N. B. The resolution mentioned within was forwarded to the comptroller 16. Decr. 1816 with the papers of the Revd. Mr. Channing —

JOSEPH EATON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:12]

PLAINFIELD Decr. 5th 1816

To his Excellency John C Smith Esqr Capt Genl

Dr Sir

Enclosed are the proceedings of the Court Martial to which my letter referred — —The Court conducted with fairness, impartiality, and with a high and proper reguard to its own dignity — The Characters that composed it were on every Account in the highest degree respectable —

I am sorry to present you a record so s[l]ovenly executed — but I have the Satisfaction to believe that it has been done with a strict reguard to my Duty

I ought perhaps to suggest to your Excellency — that the Court acted upon my opinion, in including in their Sentence, the disability of holding a military office — as it could not by the Statute be separated from [?] but that it might be mitigated by your Excellency if you Sir should think it proper — — —I am sir with great Respect your Excellencys

most obedient & humble Ser^{t}

JOSEPH EATON

[Superscribed] To his Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esq Capt Genl

[Endorsed] Jos. Eaton Esqr. 5 Decr. 1816 de court martial —

ELISHA STERLING TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:13]

His Excellency

John Cotton Smith

Sir

I returned last Evening from Hartford, while there I consulted with those Gentlemen of the Council that are Electors & also with the Hon^{ll} Mr Wolcott who was at Hartford; on the Subject of what Measures were proper to be taken regarding the appointment of a Quartermaster General & the requesting some suitable Person to take Charge & Oversight of the Quarter-

master Department untill an appointment shoud be made — — They all concurred in the Opinion that it was unnecessary & inexpedient to convene the Council to make an appointment at present — that Col. Ward was the most suitable person to take Charge of the Arsenal & all the Concerns of that Department untill further Orders from your Excellency — I handed your Letter to Col. Ward who will attend to the Business therein mentioned & will soon communicate to your Excellency the State of the Business — As to the Election — the Hon[l] Rufus King united all the Votes of the Electors of this State for President & Hon[l] John Marshal had four Votes for Vice President & the Hon[l] Ja[s] Ross of Pitsburgh had five for the like office —

It woud have been pleasant to have been united on the Subject of Vice President — but it happened otherwise — — I also forward a Letter from Secretary Day to your Excellency by the Bearer M[r] Ja[s] N. Calkins who engages safely to deliver this & that this Day The Certificates that were not used which were provided for the Electors, I will at some convenient time hand to your Excellency —

I am with sentiments of the highest Consideration your Excellency's most Obed[t] Serv[t].

ELISHA STERLING

SALISBURY Dec[r]
6th 1816

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon P. M[r] Calkins

[Endorsed] Major Gen[l]. Sterling 5. Dec[r]. 1816 de Q. M. General's department also electors —

ELIPHALET HOLMES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:14]

EAST HADDAM December 6th AD 1816

S[r].,

Should Your Excellency think proper to grant the prayer of the inclosed Petition it is the wish of the Petitioners that Your Excellency would issue Orders for the Election of Officers

&c as soon as conveniently maybe There is but one of the Petitioners, who is under the age of 18 years — — They are all propper subjects of Military Duty & in Millington Society — There are probably many others in the Society who will cheerfully become members of the Company & in consequence of the conversation, which I had with Your Excellency at New Haven, & the encouragement then given the Petitioners have been induced to pursue the present course

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency,s Obdt &
very Humble Serv,t
ELIPHT, HOLMES

His Excellency
John, C. Smith Esq
Captain General — —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr
Sharon E Haddam 6th Decr

[Endorsed] Elipht. Holmes Esq. de Millington flank company — Approved 8 Feby 1817 & sent to Adjt. Genl.
Recd. 17th Decr. Millington Petition

JOHN DAVENPORT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:15]

WASHINGTON 14th. Decr 1816

Dear Sir

I have nothing interesting to communicate to you from Congress Hall. A Bill has been reported to the House read the first and second time for the payment of the Militia and ordered to be printed and is Committed to the Commte of the whole & the order of the day for Tuesday next. Our claim for pay for our militia has not yet been exhibited, neither are the papers in the hands of any Gentleman from Connecticut present.

Much has been said about the compensation law of last session —Committees have been appointed on that subject in both houses, it has not yet produced any result. — —

I have enclosed you a document which gives a flourish to the

termination of the President existence politically — — something must be done that he may leave his post with flying colors, whether it be consistent with the fact or not — It will be sufficient to accomplish his object — —

I hope you had a pleasant journey home
with best regards to Mrs. Smith.

I am sincerely yours
JNO DAVENPORT

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governor SMITH Sharon Connecticut Free Jno Davenport

[Endorsed] Hon. Mr. Davenport 14. Decr. 1816 de pay of militia recd. 20. answd. 21.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[11:16]

SHARON 14. Decr. 1816

Dr. Sir —

Your letter of the 2nd. inst. did not reach me in season to admit of a reply by the mail of last week —

I think a return must be made of our militia to the war department as usual — And altho' I regret that an entire view of the aggregate cannot be presented, yet you can state in a memorandum subjoined to the return *that the brigade of Riflemen has been so recently organized as that a regular report of it could not be prepared in season to be forwarded* — — The Genl. Government may at least infer from the intimation that our military force is not so inferiour in point of number as it would otherwise appear —

I lament that the Artillery company at Griswold was not furnished with a field piece from N. London agreeably to my instructions to the Q. M. General — As that officer had deceased and as it is not thought best to convene the Council for the sole purpose of appointing a successor — I must request your kind offices in making the arrangement — I will thank you to inform the Captain of the Lt. Artillery at N. London, that with our

scanty supply of ordnance it has become necessary to limit each company to one piece for the present — & you will please issue the requisite orders for transfering one of the guns & apparatus now in his care to the Commandmant of the Company at Griswold — giving the former a voucher for his indemnity & taking from the latter a receipt to be delivered over to the Q. M. General who may be hereafter appointed —

I hope soon to hear from you respecting the proposed flank company in Millington —

I am D^{r}. Sir sincerely your
ob^{t}. ser^{t} —

Adj^{t}. Genl. HUNTINGTON —
[Endorsed] To Ad. Genl. 14. Dec^{r}, 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO HEZEKIAH GODDARD

[11:17]

SHARON Decr. 19. 1816.

Sir —

Your letter of the 7th instant is received —
Altho' I have no precise authority to direct the possession of the building in N. London lately occupied as a magazine to be delivered to the proprietor yet from a full belief that the measure will be approved by the legislature I advise you to give up the key to the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Channing or his agent — and to dispose of the empty casks you mention either by storing them in your cellar or by selling them & accounting for the avails with the state —

I am sir your obedient and
humble servant

Major GODDARD —

P. S. I shall write to M^{r}. Channing by the present mail informing him of my having given you the above advice — —
[Endorsed] To Major Goddard 19. Decr. 1816 also copy of his letter to me 7th. Dec^{r}.

[on back of the foregoing]

New London Decr. 7th. 1816

Sir

On receiving your letter of the 30th Novr. I called on M^{r}. Channing on the subject of his building & he gave me the first information that the arsenal belonged to him. I did suppose that it belonged to the state. I have the key & have kept the same ever since I was appointed Assistant to the Quarter Master General. I told M^{r}. Channing if he owned the building I would deliver him the key & possession, to which he answered that I had better write your Excellency first and take your direction. There are some empty casks which belonged to the state now in the arsenal which were not considered worth transporting to Hartford.

The possession has not been held by *design* or otherwise against the rightful owner. I never was called on by any one for the key or possession —

I am with the highest respect your
excellencys obd^{t}. & hm^{l}. ser^{t}.
Hez. Goddard —

His Ex^{y}
J. C. Smith &c

The original of which the foregoing is a copy is transmitted to the Comptroller —

J. C. S. —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELISHA COLT

[11:18]

Sharon Decr. 19. 1816

D^{r}. Sir —

I herewith forward a letter from the Rev^{d}. H. Channing of New London claiming from the State arrears of rent for a small building in that town used as an arsenal during the late war — and a copy of my reply — also copy of a letter to Major H. Goddard, and his answer —

Since writing Mr. Channing on the 30th. Ult° I have obtained from the Secretary a copy of the resolution passed by the legislature in regarding this subject, which is also forwarded and by which you will perceive that the order of the Assembly was made on the private application of Wm. Williams Esqr. No particular officer of the government was charged with the transaction of the business — and hence it has undoubtedly happened that a precise & technical expression *of the election of the state* has not been given — The lease it seems was to have been lodged with the treasurer, but whether it was done or not I am uninformed —

At the close of the war the Q. M. General was directed to collect the military stores from their several places of deposit on the coast & lodge them in the Arsenal at Hartford — This it appears was done — & had he been apprized of the terms of Mr. Channings lease no doubt he would have taken pains to search for Mr. Channing or his agent & return him the key of the building, inasmuch as the state could have no further use for it — Altho' strictly speaking it might require a formal resolve of the Assembly to put an end to the lease, I shall nevertheless advise Major Goddard to offer the possession to the rightful proprietor in full confidence that such a measure will be approved by the legislature —

It was my belief as I informed Mr. Channing that his claim should regularly be presented to the Q. M. General — but as it now appears that officer is not particularly named in the resolve of Assembly and moreover as the office has become vacant by the death of Col. Scarborough I consider the case as properly cognizable by the Comptroller — Accordingly I have this day by letter notified Mr. Channing that the papers are transmitted for your examination & decision —

I am Dr, Sir sincerely
your ob. sert.

E. Colt Esqr. Comptroller *&c*

[Endorsed] To E. Colt Esqr Comptroller *&c* de Mr. Channing's claim — Decr. 19. 1816 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELISHA COLT

[11:19]

SHARON 21. Decr. 1816

Dr. Sir

In a letter I have just received from Mr. Davenport he informs me that a bill is reported in the House of representatives of the U. S. for the payment of the militia — *"that the claim of this state has not been presented, and that no gentleman from Connecticut at Washington" is in possession of any papers respecting it* — Nothing could surprize me more than intelligence of this nature — The Secretary must surely have furnished our Senators with a copy of the resolution of the legislature appointing them the agents — & I feel as confident that you must have delivered them the Account of this state against the United States with such documents in support of it as were in your possession. — I delivered to Mr. Daggett at N. Haven the most material part of my correspondence with the officers of the Genl. Government during the late war — and have since transmitted every paper of importance remaining in my department — If any thing has been omitted either by Mr. Day or yourself I trust no time will be lost in supplying the deficiency by a direct communication with our Senators at Washington.

I will thank you to relieve my solicitude on this subject by writing me as early as the mail will admit —

I am Dr. Sir &c.

[Endorsed] To the Comptroller 21. Decr. 1816 —

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:20]

NORWICH 22d Decr 1816

My dear sir

Your Excellency's favor of the 14th came duly to hand and in conformity thereto I have issued an order for the Griswold Company to be furnished with a Field Piece from the

New London Company — — — As yet I have not been able to obtain any information from General Deming respecting the situation of the Millington & New Salem companies, nor any other information, than from E Holmes Esqr on which I did not offer any opinion — — I have written to the Colonel of the 3^{d} reg^{t} for copies of the last returns of the Millington & New Salem companies but have rec^{d} no reply — — — General Howe has returned to me a discharge made out by me on the election of Capt Andrews of the late 2^{d} reg^{t}, he being the senior Captain of the two companies consolidated at North Haven, none of the officers of those companies having made an election at the time of formation — — — Possibly your excellency may recollect that an application was made to you when I was at Sharon by Captain Brockett & his Ensign for discharges (on which applications I recollect no decision) but having made out the Genl Order retaining their names I do not conceive myself authorized to grant discharges to them or any other officer when the general order had retained them by name — — — It is one of those cases I apprehend, where the officers had not been notified by the Col^{o} at the time of formation as directed & *all* wished discharges —

Genl Howe has forwarded to me the election of Capt Brockett & his Ensign (the Lieu^{t} having moved out of the state) & wishes discharges but the General Order having retained them, I had considered the others (tho juniors) intitled to discharges on application — I beg your directions for my government — — — — During the sitting of the Legislature I wrote your Excellency respecting supernumerary staff — — — Having supposed the resolve of last May respecting discharges did not reach the Staff — I have granted no discharges unless they have been supernumerary & hold commissions in the line — I pray your directions whether Division Inspectors, Brigade Q Masters, Adj^{t} Pay Masters &C. &C are to be discharged by me on their application under the resolve of last May and the General Order of August —such applications are before me —

The Militia returns have been completed as far as is practic-

able and transmitted to the War Department — those for your Excellentcy I have retained for a few days in hope of some private conveyance to save postage —

I am with much esteem,
very sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

I pray your excellency to offer Mrs Smith & to your Sons family the compliments of Mrs Huntington & myself — — — and in anticipation I wish you and them a merry Christmas

His Excellency Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon Conn^t^ Norwich C^t^. Dec. 24th

[Endorsed] From Ad. Genl. Huntington — 22. Decr. 1816 rec^d^. 27th answ^d^. 28th

MOSES TRYON, JR. TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:21]

HARTFORD Decr. 24. 1816

*His Ex^y^. J C Smith Esqr*

Sir

If a branch of the United States Bank should be located in this place I am desirous of obtaining the appointment of Cashier. it is not however my intention to repair to Philadelphia & personally make interest for the appointment, but to forward my letters by our Delegates who probably will leave here in the course of next week. my wishes are to have but few letters, but those few the very best.

believing that if your Excellency is well enough acquainted with me to give a letter to the President of that institution, it would receive the consideration wch. it's entitled too & might be of essential service: in the hope of obtaining wch. is the occasion of my presuming on the liberty of addressing you the present, & wch. if granted I pray your Excellency will be pleased to forward me by return of post,

I pray your Excellency will pardon the liberty I take in troubling you on this occasion & believe me to be

Very Respectfully
Y^{r}. Obed^{t}. h'ble serv^{t}
MOSES TRYON JR

[Superscribed] His Ex^{y}. JN^{o}. C SMITH Esqr. Sharon Con^{t}.
[Endorsed] From Genl. M Tryon 24. Decr. 1816 rec^{d}. 27th answ^{d}. 28th intra

ELISHA COLT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:22]

Controllers Office HARTFORD Decem^{r} 24. 1816

His Excellency Governor Smith

Sir

your Excellencys favor of the 21^{t}. Inst. is this morning received — and in answer I beg leave to state, that I obtained from the Secretary a copy *under the Seal of the State* of the Resolve of May last authorizing our Senators to present and settle the claim of this State, the Resolve of October authorizing them to Receive Stock in payment — several other Resolves having refference to particular items in the account, evidence of my appointment to office — and the right to state & sign the accounts — all of which with a duplicate of the several General Statements, I delivered *personally* to M^{r}. Dana at Middletown on the 20th. of November together with a trunk containing the vouchers — — —

Before I left New Haven in October I enquired of M^{r}. Daggett whether I should deliver the vouchers & accounts to him or not, his reply was, it was not necessary, but to deliver them to Mr Dana

Neither at the time of delivery, nor since, hath it occurred to my mind, that any Resolve, voucher or form has been omitted that was necessary to substanciate the claim of the State, whether depending particularly on my office or not *except* a Statement under the Signature of the Quarter Master General of the ex-

penditures of Munitions of War which from the state of his health could not be obtained — this Statement I made from the accounts in my office, I *think correctly,* at least as correctly as it ever can be done, and mentioned to Mr Dana the impossibility of obtaining other evidence & which under the circumstances he believed would be sufficient.

I presume Mr Dana had not arrived at Washington at the date of Mr Davenports communication but trust 'ere this the claim of Connecticut against the United States must have been presented

I am with much Respect
Your Excellencys most
Obedient Servt
ELISHA COLT

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] From the Comptroller Decr. 24. 1816 Recd. 27th

SAMUEL C. SELDEN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:23]

LYME Decbr, 24th 1816

Sir

I have to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Excellencys Letter of the 6th, instt, in reply to the one I some time since addressed to Your Excellency upon the subject of enlisting men from the several Battalion Companies in the Town of Lyme into the 2d Flank Company of the 3d Regiment Agreeable to Your Excellency's request I would state to Your Excellency that there are but three Battalion Companies in the Town of Lyme & that the number of men in these several companies is nearly as follows (viz) in one 100 in another 60 & in the third 45 that in the largest of these three Companies & out of which orders have been received to enlist sd Flank Company the men are scattered over such an extent of territory that I find it wholly impracticable to enlist the Complement designated by law, they preferring to do duty in the Battalion Company, & notwith-

standing my exertions I have been able to enlist but 17 men — I would likewise inform your Excellency that there is an Artillery Company in the Town of Lyme which has authority to enlist men from all the aforesaid Battalion Companies — I likewise learn that application has been made to Your Excellency to establish a Flank Company in that part of the Town of East Haddam lying in Millington Society, which part of the Town of East Haddam lying in Millington Society belongs to the aforesaid Regiment & of course to the same Regiment as the second Flank Company — Should Your Excellency think proper to grant the application for a Flank Company in Millington there will then be three Flank Companies in the same Regiment — Under these circumstances I am induced to believe that it would be for the interest of the Regiment, that the 2d Flank Company should be entirely disbanded, if the same be proper — I would likewise suggest that at the last Session of the Legislature I had the honor to be appointed to a Majority in the 3d Regiment & that the office of Captain in the 2d Flank Company remains vacant — that orders have been received from Brigadier Gen. Williams to supply the vacancy — should Your Excellency therefore think proper to adopt any measure relative to the Company I have thought best to advise you of that circumstance

I am Your Excellencys Obed^{t}
& very Humble Servt,, — — — —
SAMUEL C. SELDEN — — — —

His Excellency
JOHN COTTON SMITH
Capt General

P. S. Should Your Excellency be pleased to give me any further instructions relative to the Company I would thank Your Excellency to direct the same to East Haddam Post Office as before S C.S

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr Sharon Lyme Con 27 Dec^{r}..

[Endorsed] Major S. C. Selden 24th Decr. 1816 rec^{d}. 2 Jan^{y} & answ^{d}. 4th 1817

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[11:24]

SHARON 28. Decr. 1816

D^{r}. Sir

Your favour of the 22nd. mailed 24th. instant is received — In regard to Staff officers, altho' they are not included in the resolve of May last, so far as to give a senior staff officer his election to retire, yet when the Commanding officer has made his selection of staff according to the ordinary military rules, the Supernumeraries may be discharged if they desire it — that is to say they ought to have an election to remain as Supernumeraries or to retire — This I take to be the sound construction of the first section of the act of October 1815 — which seems to comtenplate discharge "in consequence of the reorganization of the militia" And it was my expectation that you would grant discharges in cases of this description as well as in such as are specified in the Genl. order of the 15th. August last —

As to the case of Capt. Brockett & his Ensign, it is my desire that you ascertain if possible, whether they had a fair opportunity to express their election — If they had not I really think we cannot refuse it altho' offered after the publication of the Genl. order — The negligence of their colonel if such is the fact, ought not to prejudice their rights —

The petition from Millington subscribed by a sufficient number to constitute a flank company has been on hand for a considerable time past — I am waiting for the requisite information whether a battalion company can be formed within the limits specified in my former letter, and which I am sorry to perceive you have not yet been able to obtain — Let me hope it will arrive at no distant day —

I am D^{r}. Sir very sincerely yours —

J. C. S — —

N B. We all heartily reciprocate to Mrs H. & yourself the compliments of the season

[Endorsed] To Ad Genl. 28. Decr. 1816

SOPHOS STAPLES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:25]

New Haven 28th Decr,, 1816

To his Excellency J. C. Smith Esquire Capt Genl.. Connt Militia

In pursuance of the plan for fixing A Uniform for the N. H. Light Infantry Company suggested to your Excellency while the Legislature were in session a meting was called on the 1st Int. at which I communicated to the Men the Ideas expressed by your Excellency on the subject of a Cheap Neat & plain Dress. one which should be in some degree in Uniform with the Regiment — — I told them that your Excellency had concluded to indulge them with the dress which was described in general terms in their petition. And thereupon a Committee was appointed to get a dress in conformity with that description and exhibit to the Company for examination. It was accordingly procured exhibited & excep'd, and at a meeting of the 25 Ultimo the following description of it is directed by the Company to be sent to your Excellency, (viz)

An Iron grey Coattee with a black velvet Collar and a yellow Gilt Star on each side three rows of yellow gilt bell Buttons (a little flat and figured at the top) down the breast, made single breasted to button tight with two pieces of black gimp across the breast parallel from one row of buttons to the other turning in different directions behind the button and a little back of it about half way between the button below & the one above meeting the one piece the gimp below & the other the gimp above crossing it forming a plain bow, a little back about half way between the two buttons between these two pieces of gimp the button is set, the two pieces run verry near together untill they begin back of the button to deverge, It has no facing but is fronted and turned up at the skirts with black velvet running upon each skirt to a point having upon each point a yellow lace diamond. The velvet fronting is inside. There are four buttons under each pocket flap & on the flaps four button holes worked with black gimp. The folds behind have gimp running all round forming a half circle in passing from one fold to the

other in the small of the back there is also a piece running from one button to the other across the back making a diameter of the half circle. The inward folds are edged with gimp forming black lines about in the middle between the two outward folds. The Coattee has fifty five buttons all of the same kind thirty three in front, upon the breast four under each pocket flap six behind upon the folds four upon each cuff. On the ciffs[sic] there are two strips of gimp running.— close together from the upper to the lower edge parallel, and between the two strips there is a button set on the upper part of the cuff. The Pantaloons are made exhibiting in front two figures nearly Prussian knots varying only in the lower extremity which terminates with two small bows on each side instead of a plain point — — — — Across the side and fold seams gimp runs diagonally forming a bow upon each side the seam There are eight buttons upon each leg seven on the out & one on the inside. There is Chenevall Chain to go under each boot to be fastened to the button on the inside and extending nearly or quite to the top button on the outside of the leg. They have three buttons upon each hip. The buttons on the Pantaloons & Coattee are all of the same kind. The vest is to be red. The Neck must be encircled with a Stock or black Handkerchief. An unfinished Cap was exhibited the general Construction of which was approved. The Company on the subject of a Cap unanimously voted that the Committee have such a Cap as they think will suit the Company finished the Captain (if the Officers think it a suitable one to be adopted) shall write to his Excellency the Governor, to have it approved and Established. A Cap in conformity with the views of the Company as expressed by their vote has not yet been finished but will be finished soon & a description of it sent your Excelly The dress is described above exactly tho from that description but a verry indistinct idea can be formed of it. It has been exhibited to many persons whose taste of dresses of this kind may be relied upon. besides being kept in a Tailors Shop for three or four Weeks to be viewed by every one indiscriminately and from the best information I can obtain as to the opinion of people it has been universally admired as an ecoomical[sic] plain neat Military

Dress & verry well calculated for a Company like *ours*. — Should your Excellency see fit to establish it the Company I believe would be much gratified

— — As the Cap is a distinct part of the Uniform & there are so many different opinions as to the shape & trimmings of it I thought best to know your Excellencys determination as to the Dress immediately. & make a description of that the subject of a future Letter. On the Dress there seems from the beginning to have been but one opinion. about the Cap there has been many

With respect your Ob^{dt} Servt

SOPHOS STAPLES

[Endorsed] Capt. Sophos Staples de uniform of Flank company in N. Haven rec^{d}. 3. Jany 1817 answ^{d}. 4th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO MOSES TRYON, JR.

[11:26]

STATE OF CONNECTICUT Decr. 28 1816

I J. C. S. Govr. &c do certify that I am personally acquainted with Genl. Moses Tryon J^{r}. of Hartford in this state and that I feel a pleasure in expressing the high opinion I entertain both of his capacity & integrity

D^{r}. Sir

The foregoing, which may be seperated from this letter, I hope will be deemed a satisfactory reply to your favour of the 24th instant, which is just received —

I am D^{r}. Sir sincerely & respectfully

Your ob^{t}. ser^{t}.

[Endorsed] To Genl. Tryon — 28. Decr. 1816

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELIPHALET HOLMES

[11:27]

SHARON 28. Decr. 1816

D^{r}. Sir —

Your favour enclosing the petition from Millington was duly received —

I early wrote the Adj^{t}. Genl. requesting the necessary information relative to the formation of the proposed battalion company in New Salem — His letter of last evening mentions that he took immediate measures to obtain the statement I desired by addressing letters to Genl. Deming & to the Col. of the 3rd. regiment — but that no reply was yet received from either — I have written him again on the subject by the present mail —

I hope & trust it will be in my power at no very distant day to send such instructions to the applicants from Millington as will be satisfactory —

I am D^{r}. Sir sincerely & respectfully
Your ob^{t}. sr^{t}.

Col. Holmes —
[Endorsed] To Col. E. Holmes 28. Decr. 1816

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:28]

Norwich 30 Decr. 1816

My dear sir

Last Monday the 22^{d} I wrote your Excellency by the Hartford and now again by same —

When I wrote you I had not received from Colonel Wilson of the third regiment a return of the 6th 7th & 8th companies which I considered useful to ascertain the strength of those companies as they were inspected last fall — having received them I state the strength at foot — - — — I am as yet without any information from General Deming, from the returns, your Excellency will be able to form an opinion respecting the Millington application —

In compliance with your permission I have furnished the Griswold Company with a field piece to their *great* gratification

Mr Wolcott is expected in town this week or next, by whose return I expect to forward the military returns for 1816 — — From the time which has elapsed since I forwarded returns of the militia to the War department, I had a right to expect an

acknowledgment of their having been received, but I have received none — — —

With sentiments of respect and esteem
I am very sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Govr SMITH

	Capt	Sub^{n}	Srg^{t}s	Corp^{l}s	Musick	
6th company	1	1	10	11	4	110 privates
7th d^{o}	1	2	6	7	—	55
8th d^{o}	1	2	3	4	3	35

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour Smith Sharon
[Endorsed] Ad. Genl. Huntington 30. Decr. 1816 rec^{d}. 3rd. answ^{d}. 4th. Jany 1817

SELDEN COOK AND LAZARUS WATROUS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:29]

CHATHAM Jany 1st 1817

Dear Sir

Having a desire to be discharged from military duty we are under the necessity of calling on your Excellency praying you would grant us a discharge if you think it expedient it being inconvenient for us to call on you personally we must ask you to send our dismisions by male the postages shall be duly paid

we are sir with respect your ob^{t} humble
Servants

SELDEN COOK
LAZARUS WATROUS
1st & 2nd Liut^{s} of the late 6th Troop 7th Reg^{t} Cavalry

JOHN C SMITH Esqr

N.B. It would be pleasing to have a return as soon as is convenient please to direct them to Middle Haddam post office

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Marlboro Jany 3^{d}
[Endorsed] Selden Cook and Lazarus Watrous requesting discharges Rec^{d}. 10th. & discharges forwarded 11th. Jany 1817
—

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SOPHOS STAPLES

[11:30]

SHARON Jany 4. 1817

Sir

The uniform for the second flank company in the second regiment as detailed in your letter of the 28th. ultimo, is approved —

In the description you have given no difference is made in the dress of the officers & men — It is proposed probably to distinguish the officers by their badges only — When you submit the form of the cap for consideration it would be well for you also to express your ideas respecting the badges for the commissioned & non commissioned officers —

With my warmest wishes for the prosperity of the company under your command I am

sir your ob. sr^{t}.

Capt. SOPHOS STAPLES —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SAMUEL C. SELDEN

[11:31]

SHARON 4. Jany 1817

Sir

I have received your favour of the 24th. ult^{o} and am much disposed to concur with you in opinion that from a view of all circumstances it may be advisable to disband the Second flank company in the third regiment — Before such a measure is adopted however I should be desirous of learning the feelings of the officers & men as well as the Sentiments of the Colonel upon this point — and I will thank you therefore to ascertain their views & write me accordingly. In the meantime you may suspend the execution of the order you have received for leading the company to the choice of a captain —

It is highly probable a flank company will be established in Millington — I am only waiting for a report upon the subject from the Ad. General, which I am in daily expectation of receiving —

I am Sir respectfully your
ob^{t}. & hm. ser^{t}.
J. C.S —

Major S. C. Selden —
[Endorsed] To Major Selden 4. Jany 1817

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[11:32]

Sharon 4. Jany 1817

D^{r}. sir

Your favour of the 30th. ultimo is just received —

The strength of the companies as stated will afford me very little aid in deciding on the Millington petition — The question is whether the Society of N. Salem by including that part of it which lies in Montville as well as that which lies in Lyme (*& which as I observed in a form letter was wholly overlooked in the late organization*) will not form a good battalion company. To decide this point we only want to know how the arrangement will affect the Montville or *third* company — and also what will be the aggregate strength of the N. Salem or 7th company when thus formed — and when the tract overlooked is added to it. This information is very much wanted — & in obtaining it I would observe that *inspection returns* merely are not desired but the amount of *the muster rolls* — You will perceive that we must provide for that part of Lyme which is embraced in New Salem society at any rate — It must be annexed somewhere —

I am the more anxious to establish a flank company in Millington from information recently given me by Major Selden of the 3rd. regiment that it is impossible to fill the 2nd. flank company in that regiment to which he was lately attached — and that in his opinion it is best to disband it — Only 17[?] men have been obtained by his most strenuous exertion & in his view there is no prospect of enlisting another man — Should his advice be adopted (the grounds of which are detailed at large

in his letter) there will be but one flank company in the regiment —

I have only time to add that a further communication from you upon this subject at as early a day as you can conveniently prepare it will be very acceptable to your friend &

Obt. sert. —

P. S. I wrote you on 28th. in reply to your of 22nd ulto.

[Endorsed] To Ad. General Huntington 4. Jany 1817

EBER QUY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:33]

Norwich January 5th 1817

Honored Sir

We People of Color are under the disagrable Nesessity of writing a few lines to inform your honer of ower Usaage by owr select man they have Demonded Taxes of us such a thing we never heard of before and thay tell us it is no new thing it has ben passed in the Assembly 20 years but Several Gentlemen in this Town says it is a Mistake it never was Passed in the Assembly thy Demand of us from five to Seven Dollars for Four different rates which all consists & which thay call Poll-tax and thy have draged some away from their family to jail because we are not able an willing to pay which we are not unless it is an act passed from under your Honors hand if it is we are intirely willing to Obey the act but if not we are not willing

we did not think it Propper to bring it in just against the town unless we know the certainty of it because if we are obliged to carry it to suit it will have to be carried to the Assembly before your Honer and your Honer will have to Decide it and we peopeal of Color have Applied to your Honer to know for what your Honer Says we shall abide by the reason that we think it was not passed from under your Honor hand as thaer is no other Town in this State that we can hear of Demands such an Unreasorabal request as Colored People paying Taxes if we must pay taxes the Same as the white people our request is

that we might have the same Privilidge granted us as the white people Several of us are Meriners which are paying regerler Hospital Money and have been for this numbers of years and we have ben inform by a number of Gentleman in this Town and in other towns that Hospital Money clears the Meriner from Military Duty and all Taxes and we want your Honer to look in to this Business and show us a little Pittey and Mersey for we have to Labor very hard to Maintain ower famerles and to pay such taxes as your honor does not Demand we think it is very hard and we do not Doubt if your Honer know owr situation that your Honer would Past your honors Opinion and Judgment in owr favor

And beside thay deprive us of Many Priverledges of which the Law allowes us

This one for Instance Meney of us of which are Deprived of the use of Publick School Money hon^{d} Sir we wish to honer ower Countrery and Stuat by maintaing ower famerles and bringing ower Schildren to Education that thay may Learn the ways of truth and knowledge and Sir may it Please your Worship to se jestice dune by us and we Delt by according to Law

we are your moest Obunt and Humble Servent

EBER QUY of Norwich

P S if your honor would Condescend to write in answer the next mail it would Oblige us very much

[Superscribed] to the Hon Governour SMITH of Litchfield Conn C Landg Jany 7

[Endorsed] Eber Quy (a black man) 1. Jany 1817 rec^{d}. 10th wrote Genl. Huntington 11th

LEMUEL INGALS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:34]

POMFRET Jany 7th AD 1817

S^{r}

Mr Sylvanus Backus has had the inclosed some few weeks for the purpose of writing to your Excellency on the the Subject, but the state of his health has been and now is such that he is wholly unable to attend to any business: and to appearance fast

approaching his dissolution — — — he yesterday handed me the inclosed wishing me to Inclose them & write; informing you that he is satisfied that it is a Necessary measure to have said Flank Comp. established — — — —
On inquiry of Capt Williams who commands the Infantry Comp. in Pomfret he informed us that his Comp: will remain Sufficiently large; that he should have from 70 to 90 on his Rool[sic], & expressed a wish that it might take place. the Colo, as will be seen by his endorsement is Satisfied that it will be for the Good of the Reg^{t}

& am with much Respect & Esteem &c &c

LEM^{L} INGALS

His Excelency JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excelency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr Sharon Con^{tt}

[Endorsed] Lem^{l}. Ingalls Esqr. enclosing association for a flank Comp. Pomfret Rec^{d}. 24. Jany 1817

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[11:35]

SHARON 11. Jany 1817

D^{r}. Sir

I have just received a long letter signed (if I rightly decipher the name) by Eber Quy of Norwich in behalf of himself & the coloured people of that town — complaining that the municipal authorities of Norwich have ordered poll taxes to be levied upon the free blacks & praying my interference — Be so kind as to inform this man if he lives near you that I have no power, however I might be disposed, to afford the desired redress — that questions of this nature are to be decided not by the Governour but by the Judges —

I wrote you on the 4th. instant & hope soon to be favoured with your answer —

In extreme haste I am D^{r}. Sir

very sincerely yours — —

Major Genl. HUNTINGTON —

ELIZUR GOODRICH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:36]

NEWHAVEN Jany 11. 1817

My dear sir

It is with extreme pain I announce to you the death of our excellent President — Apparently as well as usual, untill Wednesday last, he was then seized with severe pains and fever, indicating a mortification and expired this morning at 3 oClock. The loss of our Alma Mater is irreparable The distance of your Excellency will prevent your attendance on his interment on Teusday next, which under other circumstances I know your Excellency would honour with your presence. It is probable a meeting of the Corporation, of which your Excellency will be advised will be had a fortnight or at most three weeks from Teusday next. I am with all esteem

your Excellencys
friend
ELIZUR GOODRICH

His Excellency
Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Con^{t},,

[Endorsed] Hon. E. Goodrich 11. Jany 1817 Death of Doct. Dwight —

ELIZUR GOODRICH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:37]

NEWHAVEN Jany 15. 1817

sir

The lamented Death of President Dwight creates in the opinion of the Prudential Committee, an occasion for convoking the Corporation of Yale College. They have accordingly appointed a meeting of that Body to be held in the Library on the second Teusday (the 11th) of February next at two °Clock, and requested me to communicate the notice to you and desire

your attendance. Permit me dear sir, to add my personal wishes for your presence on the great occasion I am with esteem & respect your Friend

ELIZUR GOODRICH

His Excellcy Governour SMITH
Dinner at the Stewarts
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esquire Sharon Con via Bridgeport
[Endorsed] Hon. E. Goodrich 15. Jany 1817 meeting of corporation

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:38]

NORWICH 16 Jany 1817

My dear sir

Your favour of the 4th of this month came duly to hand — — — I wrote Lt Col^o Wilson for information to lay before your Excellency respecting a company in N Salem Society, and another in Montville — to my letter I have rec^d no reply, but I have been informed he is attending to the subject — — and I presume in a short time I shall be able to forward to your Excellency the wished information —

The military returns forwarded under cover to Major General Sterling last week, must have been rec^d before this reaches you — — I have had no acknowledgement from the war department that my returns have been rec^d, but I have no doubt of the fact — — — —

On reading the 5th section of the law for the government of the militia passed in October last, I had adopted the idea that the public would probably furnish the blank books for the company records — the mode of expression I thought warranted that construction, & I have been led to a confirmation, by the application from some of the Captains for their books, but the death of the Quarter Master Genl through whose hands I expected to have rec^d the books and the silence of your excellency

on that subject, has suggested to me whether it was not intended that each *Captain* should provide the book & the form of keeping the records be prescribed by the A G

May I be permitted to ask your excellency for information respecting the closing part of the said fifth section — — — the entries to be made in that book are definitively printed out, & then a clause annexed making it the duty of the Adj^{t} Genl to prescribe the forms of keeping such records — — —

Permit me to say, I feel a difficulty, in executing the part of the law thrown upon me — — — — — — If your excellency will be pleased to explain more explicitly how I shall execute the law & authorize me to *issue an order* to effect the distribution *of the form which may be adopted* I will attempt to meet the wishes of the legislature — — — but I freely acknowledge I feel diffident of effecting, what probably was intended by the legislature — — — I perceive no duty enjoined on the Captains to deliver over the records to their successor, whether this omission was in consequence of the record book being the property of the Captain, or because (being furnished by the public) the delivery over, would follow of course I am unable to determine — — — — —

I am my dear sir
with respect and exteem
yours very sincerely
EBEN : HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon Via New Haven

[Endorsed] Ad. Genl. Huntington 16. Jany 1817 rec^{d}. 25th answ^{d}. D^{o}—

SAMUEL C. SELDEN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:39]

LYME, January 21st 1817

S^{r},

I have the honor to acknowlege the receipt of your Excellency,s Letter of the 4th,, Ins^{t}, I have since conversed with

Messrs Warner & Spencer, Lieutenant & Ensign of the Second Flank Company in the Third Regiment — who are the only officers of the Company — They are fully satisfied that the Company cannot be enlisted — I have likewise consulted a number of the Soldiers whom I have enlisted, — I find them of the same opinion — & from a conviction that the Company cannot be inlisted are, as far as I have been able to ascertain their feelings, as well as the officers, willing, & would prefer to have the Company disbanded entirely — I have not seen Col. Moore the Commander of the Regiment, or had any communication with him upon the subject, as he lives at the distance of between Twenty & Thirty Miles from me — & as he has recently been appointed to the Command of the Regiment, I did not know as Your Excellency, under those circumstances would deem it very important — I have however conferred with with a considerable number of the Inhabitants, where the Company is established & particularly with Col. Comstock late Commander of the Regiment — their view upon the subject of disbanding the Company are similar to those entertained by the officers & men of the Company, whom I have consulted — I believe that all will cheerfully acquiesce in any measure, which Your Excellency shall think proper to adopt relative to the Company — I would further state to Your Excellency, that I am informed that if a Flank Company should be established in Millington, it is in contemplation to annex that part of New Salem Society, which lies in the Town of Lyme to the Seventh Company — Although that part of New Salem was not in the late organization annexed to any Company, those liable to perform military duty therein have been enrolled & performed duty in the Company, out of which orders have been received to enlist the Second Flank Company, which may perhaps reduce the number, out of which the company is to be enlisted to about Ninety — of which circumstance I should have informed Your Excellency in my last Letter, had I been advised of it —

I am your Excellencys
Obd^t & very humble Servant
SAMUEL C. SELDEN

His Excellency
JOHN C. SMITH Esqr
Capt General

N. B. Should your Excellency think proper to make any further communications upon the subject please to direct the same to East Haddam Post Office as before — — — —

S. C. S.

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH, Esqr Sharon Chester C^{t} Jany 24

[Endorsed] Major S. C. Selden 21. Jany 1817 answ^{d}. 8. Feby intra —

WILLIAM PERKINS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:40]

ASHFORD Feby 5 1817

Sir,

The inclosed paper has been shewn me by George Learned Esqr. and as I am now acting states atty in this county I take the liberty to address you this line — The process is regularly instituted, and I am well informed that the facts contained in the complaint are true and believe that it will be for the furtherance of justice that steps be taken to obtain the body of the delinquent who is, as I am informed in custody and holden for tryal in the state of New-York on a charge of theft, but will probably be acquited — — — I am sir, respectfully, your obedient & hm^{l} Servt.

W^{M} PERKINS

His Ex^{y} JOHN C SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr. Sharon Thompson Con. Feby. 14th

[Endorsed] Hon. W^{m}. Perkins with a complaint & warrant enclosed — answ intra

[11:41]

To George Larned Esqr. a Justice of the peace for the County of Windham comes Isaac Davis — a Grand Juror of the Town of Thompson within said County and Complaint makes and Gives Your Worship to understand that one Charles Lewis, late Resident in said Thompson did at said Thompson on or about the 14th day of December last past feloneously that take and carry away out of the possession of Jeremiah Wheaton of said Thompson a Certain Valuable Light or Dapple Grey Mare with a saddle and Bridle (all of the value of two hundred Dollars) all the property of the said Jeremiah Wheaton & the same did wickedly & feloniously convert to his own use all which Doings of the said Charles Lewis are against the peace and contrary to a certain statute law of this State Entitled an Act for the punishment of thefft" — Your Complainant therefore prays your worship to issue process Against the said Charles Lewis — — — — That he may be forthwith apprehended and Dealt with on the premises as to law & Justice Shall appertain Dated at Thompson this 25th Day of January AD 1817 — — —

ISAAC DAVIS

Grand Juror of the Town of Thompson

To the sheriff of the County of Windham his Deputy or Either of the Constables of the Town of Thompson within said County greeting By authority of the state of Connecticutt you are hereby commanded forthwith to arrest the Body of the above Named Charles Lewis if he may be found in your precincts and him keep & have Before the suscriber a justice of the peace for said County or some other proper authority that he may be Examined touching the matters set forth in the foregoing Complaint & be thence Dealt with according to Law Dated at Thompson the 25th day of Jany 1817 per George Learnerd Justice of y^{e} peace

Windham County Ss. January 25th 1818[sic]

By virtue of the within and foregoing Complaint and Warrant I have Made Search for the body of the Named Charles Lewis but Could Not find him the said Charles within My Precincts

Attest ELISHA GLEASON Dep^{t} sheriff

Time & Search *$1.50*

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[11:42]

SHARON 25. Jany 1817

D^{r}. Sir

Your letter of the 16th. instant, owing to some miscarriage in the mail has but just arrived — A few moments only are allowed me in reply —

I was not aware of any ambiguity in the terms of the act to which you refer — I take it to have been always the duty of the captain of a company to keep an orderly book — The *manner* of keeping it and the *use* to which it may be applied appear to me to be simply the objects which the legislature had in view in the law of last October — It will undoubtedly pass to the succeeding captains as regularly as the colours of the company or any other property which it holds in its coporate capacity — It is to be in truth the record of the company — To procure a uniformity in the mode of keeping the book as well as to bring the duty home to the captains the Adjutant General is directed to prescribe the form — and this I think from his well known sagacity and his thorough experience as a military officer he will find no difficulty in accomplishing without the aid of a general order — especially too as the act points out the particulars to be observed — If you will however send me a sketch of what you consider should be the form contemplated by the legislature I will cheerfully express my opinion respecting it —

The military returns have not come to hand — nor have I heard of their being forwarded under cover to Genl. Sterling — I hope soon to have further particular from you relative to the N. Salem company —

I am D^{r}. Sir sincerely your
ob^{t}. ser^{t}.

M. Genl. E HUNTINGTON —
[Endorsed] To Genl. E. Huntington 25. Jany 1817

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:43]

NORWICH 27th Jany 1817

My dear sir

On saturday evening I recd from Colo Wilson of the third regiment the following information

Men liable to military duty in Montville in the third company exclusive of	
New Salem Society	68
ditto in New Salem Society in Montville	11
ditto in New Salem Society in Colchester	35
ditto in New Salem Society in Lyme	12
total in New Salem	58

I have the honor to acknowledge the General Order of the 17th — — — a copy of which hath been forwarded to Genl Salter for circulation to his brigade

I am with much esteem
very sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency
Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon 27 Jany

[Endorsed] Ad. General — 27. Jany 1817 de strength of companies 3. Regt. Recd. 7. Feby 1817 answd. 8th

THOMAS DAY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:44]

HARTFORD Jany — 28th.. 1817.

Dear Sir,

I received, a short time since, four boxes of Books directed to Your Excellency at this place. On opening the boxes

they were found to contain the books of which a Memorandum is enclosed. They are deposited in my Office.

Sheriff Chester, after considerable search, has found a copy of an old writ of election blank, which I send herewith. I have but just rec^{d}. it from him, or I should have forwarded it earlier.

Very respectfully,
Your obed^{t} serv^{t}
THOMAS DAY

Govr SMITH —
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] Thos. Day Esqr. 28. Jany 1817 de laws of the U. S. rec^{d}. 31 Jan^{y}

DAVID DEMING TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[11:45]

COLCHESTER January 29th, 1817

Dear Sir

A multiplicity of concerns & not possessing correct information upon the subject suggested in your favour long since rec^{d} must apologize for not replying to it ere this, I have made many enquiries respecting the number of subjects of military duty in New Salem & Millington Societies. If a Company should be form^{d}, in each society embracing the limits of both the former companies in said societies I am of opinion that each Company would consist of fifty privates, at least, perhaps more, Those interested in Millington are very desirous that a company should be form^{d}, there & no exertions on the part of the applicants will be wanting to fill the company, under all circumstances I have no hesitation in saying that it would be expedient to form a Company in each Society.

I am Sir respectfully your Ob^{t}. servt
DAVID DEMING

Genl. EBEN^{R}, HUNTINGTON

[on back of foregoing, in handwriting of John Cotton Smith.]

NORWICH 1817

Extract from the Act intituled an Act for forming and conducting the Military Force of this State passed October 1816

Sec 5

To carry the above recited section into effect — the Adjutant General prescribes that each Captain shall procure for the use of the company under his command a blank book to contain not less than one quire of paper in which all General, Division, Brigade, Regimental, Battalion and company orders are to be recorded at full length — also the votes and proceedings of the Company; the names of the persons detached from such company for duty — — the date of the days on which the company may assemble for military purposes — — and also to record on each day of company meeting the names of the persons liable by law to do duty in their respective companies or liable by law to be enrolled including all free white male citizens above sixteen and under forty five years of age noting the delinquencies against each name, & where partially equipped or not equipped according to law either in equipments or clothing — in such manner that the record may shew the exact State of the Company — — — —

Whenever a Captain may die, resign or be promoted, the record book must be delivered over to his successor in office to be preserved that recourse may be had to it when necessary — — — —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO LEMUEL INGALS

[11:46]

SHARON 30. Jany 1817 —

D^r. Sir —

Your letter covering the association for a flank company in Pomfret has been received —

The association is approved and enclosed are the necessary orders to the Colonel of the Regiment, which I must request you will have the goodness to forward —

One of the associates M^{r}. George Sharpe I perceive is an ensign in the first battalion company — It would be improper to transfer him as such by an order to the flank company — At the same time if the associates should elect him one of their officers I perceive no objection to his acceptance — in which case there will be a vacancy in the first company which may be filled under an order from the Brigadier —

Let the Colonel certify to me the names of the gentlemen who may be chosen officers in the flank company that I may give them an authorization to act until they receive commissions — Also let the officers elect consult their men & inform me what would be their wishes respecting their uniform —

I exceedingly lament the declining state of M^{r}. Backus's health — Be pleased to present him my most sincere regards with the assurance of my fervent prayers for his recovery —

I am D^{r}. sir very respectfully
your ob^{t}. & hm. Sr^{r}. —

Judge Ingals —
[on back]
To colonel Jonathan May of the eleventh Regiment of Infantry
— — — — — — Greeting —

I have thought proper in pursuance of your recommendation and in conformity with the request of the individuals who have associated for the purpose to allow a flank company to be formed in the Society of Abington in the town of Pomfret to be denominated *the third flank company* in the eleventh regiment — I do accordingly approve of the association subscribed for that end bearing date the 23rd. day of October AD 1816 and I now transmit the necessary orders for leading the associates to a choice of officers —

Until further directions shall be given the said flank company will be confined in its future enlistments to such subjects of military duty as shall reside within that portion of the beat of the first battalion company in said regiment which comprehends the said society of Abington —

Given under my hand the 30th. day of
January AD 1817

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:47]

NORWICH Feby 1st 1817

My dear sir

Your Excellency's favour of the 25th Ult^{o} came duly to hand by the Hartford Mail on the 29th — — I avail myself of the permission to lay before your Excellency the form of a circular, which I calculate to have printed & distributed through the Brigadiers to each Captain of Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Rifle Corps & Flank Company, provided the form and mode meet your approbation — — — — In my letter to your Excellency I did not remark that the 5 section of the militia law required the Captains to enroll *all persons* except &C, but presuming the Honble Legislature meant *Military Persons* I have so expressed myself in the proposed form — — — — If your Excellency should doubt the propriety of departing from the letter of the law, I will follow your directions — — — The information respecting the New Salem Company will have reached you before this time — — if there should have been no neglect at the Post Office I now inclose Genl Deming's letter on the same subject — — —

I am very respectfully
and sincerely yours
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

A Copy of the form of my circular is on the back of the letter from Genl. Deming —

His Excellency Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] A. Genl. 1. Feby 1817 de flank comp^{y} in Millington — enclosing a form &c. Rec^{d}. 7th. & answ^{d}. 8th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO COOK & HALE

[11:48]

SHARON 5. Feby 1818[sic] —

Gentlemen

I herewith forward agreeably to your request Vinn's

Abridgment in 24 volumes — The prices mentioned in your last are considerably higher than I expected — particularly the price of Marshall's Washington which I have never before known to exceed 15 dollars — and if I do not mistake Edwards also has usually been sold for the like sum — Possibly your editions may be of a superiour quality — You will be pleased to send me at present Edwards's works Marshall's Washington, Newton's works in *eleven* volume *12*^{mo} — Magee on the Atonement — Lewis & Clark's journal of a tour up the Mussouri & to the Pacific ocean — and Gibbon's decline & fall of the Roman Empire —

I will thank you to inform me whether you have Walter Scott's edition of Swift's works & if so — the price —

I am Gentlemen very respectfully
your ob. sert —

Messrs. Cook & Hale —
Booksellers —
Hartford —

[Endorsed] To Mes^{rs}. Cook & Hale —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[11:49]

Sharon 8. Feby 1817

D^{r}. Sir —

Your letters of the 27th ult^{o} and 1st. instant have been both detained at Litchfield or elsewhere as they have but just arrived — The return of the mail obliges me to be very concise in my reply —

I think on reexamining the 5th. section of the Act you mention you will perceive that the legislature *intended* that the names of *all persons* between the ages of 16 & 45 should be enrolled by the captains of the battalion infantry excepting those only who belong to select corps. They are at the same time to *designate* on this roll those who are *liable* to military duty — And one object of the law is to enable others besides

these captains to determine whether they designate properly —

I would also observe that the sketch you have sent me seems calculated only for captains of infantry — whereas an orderly book is also to be kept in each flank company & in each company of Artillery Cavalry & Riflemen — and the captains of these companies are confined in the manner of keeping their *roll* to an entry of those only who are *enlisted* — Excepting these variations your form is undoubtedly a good one —

I have concluded to adopt the advice of General Deming — The application from Millington is accordingly enclosed with my acceptance & instructions endorsed thereon — you will direct the order to the Colonel or to Major Selden as shall be most convenient to either of those gentlemen — It will be necessary to change the limits of the 7th. company, and it is also necessary to vary the Genl. order of the 15th. August in several particulars where mistakes have evidently intervened — On my return from N. Haven for which place I shall set out on Monday I will endeavour to state these particulars. In the meantime I will thank you to inform me whether in your opinion these corrections should be made in one general order — or by an order directed to the colonel of each regiment wherein the alterations are required — I have only time to add that I am Dr. sir very sincerely your ot. sert.

[Endorsed] To Adt. General 8. Feby 1817 De Millington Flank company & form of orderly book

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ELIPHALET HOLMES

[11:50]

SHARON 8. Feby 1817

Dear Sir —

A communication was received from the Adjutant General last evening containing the information required of him relative to the proposed alterations in the 7th company 3rd. regiment of Infantry —

I have this day forwarded to him the association from Millington for a flank company with my approbation thereon en-

dorsed and with instructions to issue the necessary orders for leading the associates to a choice of officers — The future limits of the 7th. battalion company will be ascertained & established in a general order which will soon be made for that purpose —

From the representation of Major Selden I am strongly inclined to believe the flank company in Lyme can never be filled & ought therefore to be disbanded — in which event the Millington flank company will of course be the second — A letter is now addressed to the Major on that subject —

When the officers of your flank company are chosen let their names be certified to me by the officer who executes the order and I will thereupon authorize them to act until they shall receive their commissions — Let the officers elect likewise consult their men & acquaint me with their wishes respecting their uniform —

I am Dr. sir respectfully
Your obt. & hm. Sert.
J. C. S —

Col. Holmes —
[Endorsed] To Col. Holmes —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SAMUEL C. SELDEN

[11:51]

Sharon 8. Feby 1817 —

Sir —

Your favour of the 21. ulto. was duly received — on mature reflection I concur with you in opinion that the flank company in Lyme ought to be disbanded — I have however made it a rule not to reduce a flank company without the consent or desire of at least a majority of its officers & men — If the two remaining officers therefore will consult their men & certify to me the wishes of a majority of them to that effect I will thereupon issue the necessary order —

I have this day sent instructions to the Adjutant General for the establishment of a flank company in Millington —

With sincere regard I am Sir
Your obt. & hm. Sert. —

Major Selden

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:52]

MIDDLETOWN Feby 12. 1817

Your Excellencys letter of the 8th of Feby was recd p^{r} Mail this day —

A Combination of unexpected circumstances, prevented my answering the letter of the 2^{d} of Dec^{r} — I had intended to have called together the Field officers of the Brigade early in Jan^{y} — & to have advised with them respecting change of uniform &c, but soon after the superior Court closed its session, I was obliged to go to Philadelphia expecting to be absent about only 8 or 9 Days, & did not return untill last Week.

I have made up my mind with respect to the Rifle — & nearly so with respect to the Grey Dress — at the same time I should be glad as a mark of civility to the Field Officers to consult them before giving a decided opinion to y^{r} Excell^{y}. I think they will have some reason to think me wanting in respect to them if I do not. I propose calling them together about the 26th,, of this Month or perhaps the 22^{d}, if it can be done. I am sensible the season is advanced, & much regret that my absence has prevented me from attending to the subject before, but it has been wholly out of my power

With respect to the Uniform for myself & Staff, I hope y^{r} Excel^{y} will postpone a decission for the present, as it is of little moment. They feel a little uneasy in the Western part of the State, that they have no Field Officer — if I can find a Gent^{n} properly qualified residing there I shall appoint him Brigade Major

I have but one staff Officer yet appointed & should wish to consult the Staff before making up a definitive decission with respect to their Uniform.

After all if Y^{r} Excell^{y} thinks it will be too late for a General Order after the 26th I will immediately attend to the subject & draw up a description of Uniform Rifles &c

I am with much respect

Y^{r} Excell^{y}s much obliged

friend & Servant
Chy Whittelsey

His Excellency John Cotton Smith
[Superscribed] His Excellency John Cotton Smith Sharon single Middletown Feb. 19
[Endorsed] B. Genl. Whittelsey 12. Feby 1817 answd. 22nd

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:53]

Norwich 17th Feby 1817

My dear sir

I have to acknowledge your letter of the 8th with the Millington Association inclosed — — — — — — — As Major Selden lived near the applicants, I made an order to him to lead them to the choice of officers — — — — In correcting the errors which occurred in the formation of companies in August I should prefer a General Order to be formed by your Excellency, with permission to the Adjt Genl to forward to each Brigadier the alterations within his Brigade only — Last fall I informed your Excellency of the fact that Muddy Brook Society in Woodstock embraces a part of Thompson; that Canterbury 1st Socy embraces a part of Plainfield neither of which were known to me at the time of forming companies — — I presume your Excellency is possessed of all the errors by this time, which occurred — — — — — — — —

With my best respects to Mrs Smith and to Colo Smith & family — — I subscribe

very respectfully & sincerely yours
Eben: Huntington

His Excellency Governour Smith
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour Smith Sharon
[Endorsed] Ad. General Huntington 17. Feby 1817 recd. 21. answd. 22nd

BARNABAS BATES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:54]

SAYBROOK Feb 18 A. D. 1817.

His Excellency John Cotton Smith
Captain Gen[l]*. Conn. Militia &c*

I take the liberty of applying to your Excellency, for a discharge from Military duty and offer the following risons therefore (viz,)

I. I am now 42 years of age, and hold an Ensign Commission in the 4th. Comp[y] 7th Regiment dated May 9th A.D. 1811 — to take rank from the 6th day of Nov[r]. 1810 — — previous to which I did duty in said Company as a Sergeant about 5. years; and in various stations have constantly done duty in the Militia Twenty two years — And during the late war was frequently called at on alarms and performed garision duty sometimes at Saybrook fort — — — and can say without fear of Contradiction, that I have always done duty with alacrity — according to the best of my ability — — — —

II Notwithstanding the length of time and the Burden of Service which I have thus rendered my Country — and the expences necesarily incurred, I would not at this time trouble your Excellency with an application of this kind. were it not that the Expence and Claims of a lage Family on my daily labor for its support seem to me to present an unsurmountable Obstacle to any further advance in this expensive career — — — — —

I have no means to depend on for the maintainance of my family. but daily manuel Labor — and the Compay being now destitute of the other Commissioned Officers, In the event of my Promotion — — I should be under the necessity of incuring further expence. which I deem unreasonable — — — —

III. The Company to which I belong, I concieve will suffer nothing by my discharge. It now consists of More than one hundred Men — among whom there are many very likely ambitious Men fit for any office in the Company — — — And the Sergeants in particular are well selected and from recent experience Ambition & talents are well qualified to fill the various

Officers and discharge the duties appertaining to the Company — — — —

Wherefore I pray your Excellency to grant me an Hon. discharge from further Military duty and much oblige

Your Obedient Servt BARNABAS BATES

[On the inside leaf of the foregoing.]

GEORGE W. JEWETT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:55]

SAYBROOK Feb. 1817. — —

His Excelley Gov Smith.

Sir I am well aquainted with Insign Bates and have read the foregoing application; and am knowing that the statement contained therein is correct, excepting as to the length of time he has Served. and the number of men belonging to the 4th Company: His own Statement however, with regard to that or any other fact is entitled to full and entire Credit — and I have no doubt but his Statement is entirely correct — And I have no hesitency to State that under his Circumstances he has done as much military duty and born as much expence — as can resonably required by his Country.

I am very respectfully
Your Excelleny's
Obedient Servant
GEO. W. JEWETT

With the above statement of Col. Jewett I fully agree

JOSEPH HILL

[on back]

HADDAM Feb^{y}, 20th AD 1817

His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esq Capt General

Sir I would Recomend Ensign Barnabas Bates for an Honorable Discharge from Military Duty

JOHN BRAINERD 2nd, 2nd Col
7th Reg^{t} Con. Militia

[Endorsed] Ensign Barn^{s}. Bates's Petition for a discharge — Granted & order issued 24. Feby 1817 —

[11:55] Printed circular omitted in this publication.

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

[11:56]

SHARON 22. Feby 1817

D^{r}. Sir —

Your letter of the 12th. Inst — arrived here during my attendance with the corporation of Yale College —

I cheerfully comply with your request for time to consult your field officers on the subject mentioned in my last — It will be necessary I apprehend when the general order is issued to fix the period within which the rifles are to be procured at some day beyond the May trainings — When you transmit your report on that subject be so good as to favour me with your opinion as to the length of time it would be reasonable to grant the men to furnish themselves with rifles as well as with the uniform — designating also the particular companies which have expressed a desire for the new dress —

I am D^{r}. Sir very sincerely your friend
& ob. ser^{t}.

B. Genl. WHITTELSEY —

[Endorsed] To Genl. Whittelsey — 22. Feby 1817 —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO WILLIAM PERKINS

[11:57]

SHARON 22. Feby 1817

D^{r}. Sir

Your letter of the 5th. with the Thompson post mark of the 14th inst. is received — —

Whether the present Executive of N. York will deliver up a fugitive from justice upon the presentment of an individual grandjuror I know not — I only know that Governour Jay when in office once refused it — They are wholly unacquainted in that state with any such proceedings — I told the owner of the stolen horse, who called here on his return, *that the presentment of a Grandjury duly impanelled & sworn* or, *the official*

information of the States' attorney filed before the proper court, would be necessary — Probably he did not distinctly understand me — I have never made a request of the kind on any other basis — Possibly Govr. Tompkins would now comply but As the demand must necessarily be attended with considerable expence to this state I should think it advisable to proceed cautiously — At any rate *an agent* must be appointed & named in the demand, to receive the prisoner — Should you think it advisable to risque the call upon the present document or any other, you will be so good as to designate to me a suitable person for the agent — I will thereupon prepare an official demand & send it to the Secretary who will affix to it the seal of the state & at whose office the agent may call & receive it —

I am D^{r}. Sir respectfully your
ob^{t}. ser^{t}. —

P. S. I sincerely condole with you on the death of our friend Backus
[Endorsed] To H. W. Perkins

SOPHOS STAPLES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:58]

New Haven Febuary 24th 1817

To His Excellency
John Cotton Smith Capt Genl Conn Milt.

Your Excellenceys letter establishing the Uniform of the New Haven Light Infantry, has been duly receive^{d}, and the part of it which related to the Dress of the officers both Commission^{d} and Noncommissioned wish for no other distinction from the men in their dress but yellow Epauletts and knots unless it may be a button of a larger size, and some little ornament about the Cap. — — — The company on the 22^{d} Inst. had a meeting duly notified and warned for the purpose of choosing an Ensign, to fill the Vacancy occasioned by the appointment of Ensign Hitch-

cock to the office of Brigade Major & Inspector & made choice of Dennis Kimberley — — — — As this is a new Company wishing to be prepared to appear in Uniform equipped on the 1st Monday in May previous to the Session of the Legislature and as the exertion of all its officers will be nesscessary to mak[e] it appear respectable — — — I would submit to your Excellencey the expediencey of granting Mr Kimberly a temporary *Commission* — — — — The company at their meeting adapted unamesously, a Cap of the following description a Sample of which was presented before them, and Voted that a description be sent to your Excellencey, Viz

The crown of the Cap, the same shape and size of a common Hat. with a front piece of the same height, cut circular at the Top, and round at the bottom, running at the bottom half round with a Coat of arms of the State, painted blue & Green, and yellow gilt in front about Six inches round over the Coat of arms. spreading gradualley narrower from the bottom to the Top, round at the Top and yellow Gilt, round the outer Edge, with a Strip of Gold Lace, round the bottom for a band

The Cap has no brim, but has a forepeice about four inches wide, in front growing narrower each way until it terminates above the Top of the lace on each side, at the Extremities of the lower part of the front peice — — — — — —

The back part of the Cap is turned up with morrocco, about four & half inches wide, bound round the edges with gold Lace & cut in 6 Scollops round and 2 half Scollops meeting the forepeice & buttoned up behind with Seven yellow, gilt, round bell buttons, about the Size of a small rifle Ball, two on each side, above the 2 wings of the front peice, a little more than one inch apart, the other around in a Row with the upper side buttons and may be unbuttoned & let down over the Cape of the Coat, at pleasure. The [fore —] peice is gilt round the upper edge about a quarter of an inch in width — — The whole Cap is made of black varnished and painted Leather, except the back peice of black Morrocco turned up behind. — — — — — — —

The expence of a Cap of the above description is from five to Six Dollars, much cheaper than any other in this Town, &

is thought to be more neat & better calculated for a Military company by most persons who have seen it. should your Excellencey think fit to Establish it, I believe it is such a one as would be satisfactory to the Company or should you reccommend another or alterations in this they will be equalley as well Satisfied, your obedient humble Servant — — — —

SOPHOS STAPLES

[Superscribed] JOHN COTTON SMITH Capt General, Conn Militia Sharon Litchfield — — — —

[Endorsed] Capt. S. Staples de uniform — 24. Feby 1817 answ^{d}. 1. March

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SOPHOS STAPLES

[11:59]

SHARON 1. March 1817

Sir

I have received your letter of the 24th ult^{o}

Your company appear to have discovered a very good taste in the selection of their dress throughout and it meets with my approbation — My only fears are that the uniform may be so expensive as to deter men in moderate circumstances from enlisting into the company in future — but not having yet seen a full estimate I do not know that there is any solid ground for such apprehensions —

I think it will be advisable for you to make out an entire statement of the dress in comprehensive terms and transmit it to me in the form of an application signed by yourself in behalf of the officers & men — I will then subjoin a confirmatory order and the whole may be thus entered in your orderly book —

The foregoing order authorizing Ensign Kimberly to officiate 'till the rising of the next Genl. Assembly may be seperated from this letter & delivered to him —

I am Sir your ob^{t}. & hm sr^{t}.

Capt. S. STAPLES —

[Endorsed] To Capt. Staples

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:60]

MIDDLETOWN March 3d 1817

Dear Sir

Your Letter of the 22d was not received untill this morning. I forwarded my report on Saturday. I forgot to mention in my Report that the Colonels of Regts will furnish a pattern Dress for the Privates. I cannot tell what number of Companies will wish to adopt the new dress — since the Company officers were together several new Companies have been organized — several of the Companies composed in part of the State Troops have obtained Blue Uniforms.

I think that the adopting of the new dress should be left to the option of the Companies, as most of them have been organized under the impression that they would be allowed the State Corps Uniforms if they chose them.

I do not think it will be practicable to obtain Rifles under at least Eighteen Months from next May, I should allow therefore from 18 to 20 Months in which to procure them. Many of the Companies will procure them immediately as soon as they can be made, other Companies who will not procure them by Contract but individually, will not be able to purchase because there will be none in market of the proper kind except such as are made for particular Companies.

I am with much
respect Your Excellys
friend & Obdient Servant
CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

His Excellency
JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Cont single

[Endorsed] Genl. Ch. Whittelsey 3. March 1817 answd. 8th intra — & to letter of 25. Feby

WILLIAM C. ATWATER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:61]

New Haven Feby 27th,, 1817

Honourd Sir

I presume it is unnecessary for me to Inform you that at this time I am Commissioned by you as 4th, Lieut, in the 2d Compy of your Excellencys foot Guards. — — — From that Commission I now take the liberty to request of you A discharge and upon the following ground. — — — At the time I was Elected Ensign my prospects as I thought would enable me to support it but since that I have been unfortunate In the fall of 1815 I in company with an acquaintance laid In a Stock of Dry Goods & proceeded to the southward where we opened a Store but buisness being so dull we were obliged to return with our Goods & Compromise with our Creditors & pay them a Large pr Ct, to receive our goods back they having fallen on our hands — In short this rendered me a complete Bankrupt. I come home last March & have remained ever since without doing any business neither do I see any prospect of doing any for some time to come — add to this I have a Small family to maintain and to do which I have found it difficult as I have been confined with Sickness A Good part of the summer & fall. In consequence of my Misfortunes you see Sir I am totally unable to support my Commission with that dignity necessary in A Company like this. — I presume Sir there is no person in the State takes more pride in Military or would be more pleased to serve than myself was it consistent with my situation. — I am aware that my age is against A discharge but Sir when you take the foregoing facts into consideration I am in hopes your Honour will be pleased to discharge me Immediately. — but If to the contrary you think that I ought to be retained in Service I think I should be willing to be reduced to the Ranks of the Militia (although it would be rather Mortifying to me) Rather than wear a commission which I am unable to support —I hope your Honour will Inform me as soon as Convenient my fate And your petitioner as In duty bound will Ever pray &c. — —

Your Most Ob^{t},,
And Humble Servt
W^{M}. C. Atwater

[Superscribed] His Excellency John Cotton Smith Sharon
[Endorsed] Lieut. W^{m}. C. Atwater of 2. comp. F. Guards. rec^{d}. 6. March 1817 answ^{d}. 8th

SELDEN HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:62]

Haddam March 3^{d} 1817

Hon^{d}. Sir

On making application at the Secretarys office I find there are no commissions for the second Flank Com^{y} of the 7 Reg^{t}. As the returns were made to your Excellency of the choice of Officers it was supposed that no other returns were necessary in order to have the permanent commissions granted. Information is requested whether any farther returns are necessary, & whether the officers can continue to act in the capacities for which I have Your Excellencys commission, untill the close of the next session. If it is not inconsistent with any established principle of the organization permission is requested from Y^{r} Excellency to enlarge the 2^{d} Flank Company by enlistment from any battalion company within the town of Haddam not thereby reducing any company below the company into which they are enlisted. This I am induced to request from the circumstance that both the battalion companies on this W side the river are now about as small as the legal number although larger than the 2^{d} Flank Com^{y}, which is generally the case in the reg^{t} & that part of the town on the East side the river find themselves less conveniently situated than if attached to the 7th Reg^{t} as originally reported. Some of them therefore would be relieved by enlisting into this company & not injure the Comp^{y} they leave which is understood to be considerably above the legal number. If the above should be thought inexpedient, a special permission to enlist all within the limits of the former 6th Compan^{y} will embrace a desirable & to us satisfactory object

It is understood that some dissatisfyed persons are circulating a petition to Y^{r} Excellency for a new organization of the 2^{d} Flank company. If it should ever be presented I will only remark, that at our last fall review the company appeared as well satisfyed with themselves & their Officers as any company could be & acquitted themselves in a manner much beyond expectation considering the short time they had been organised, that several who have signed the petition have since expressed their regret, & that it is not strange that there should be fewer offices than candidates, should the reasons urged in the petition alluded be thought worthy of farther attention, shall hope to receive notice if the petition is presented.

Your Excellency's answer to the former parts of this letter is Respectfully requested by

Your Most Obedient Servant
SELDEN HUNTINGTON

JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr
Captain General Connecticut Militia
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr,, Sharon Connecticut
[Endorsed] Capt. Seldon Huntington 3. March 1817 answ^{d} 8th

RUSSEL C. ABERNETHY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:63]

TORRINGTON March 5th. AD. 1817.

Sir,

I have the honor to receive your Excellencys favor of the 22nd, Ultimo on receipt of which I called on Col^{o}, Woodruff and with him visited Northfield & Plymouth at Northfield we conversed with Col^{o}. March and several other persons they are clearly of opinion that the interest of that society would be promoted by uniting with the east part of the first society in Litchfield; At Plymouth we conversed with several gentlemen they state that there has been considerable dissatisfaction respecting the union with Northfield and they are of opinion that

there will be difficulty when a choice of officers shall take place should the present arrangement be continued; and they have no doubt but the people will be better pleased and accommodated to have a located flank company including the whole town. Col^{o}, Woodruff and my self agree perfectly with the opinion of the gentlemen and also are of opinion that the part of the first company which lies in the first society in Litchfield can much more conveniently unite with Northfield than with South Farms I therefore would suggest for the consideration of your Excellency the following alterations in the 16th, Reg^{t}, viz, The 1st, Company to include that part of the first society in Litchfield which lies east of the line described as the eastern boundary of the 5th company & that part of the society of Northfield which lies in Litchfield.
The 6th, company to include the society of South Farms
The 3rd flank company to be *located* and include the town of Plymouth. With respect to confining the inlistments of the flank company to the town of Plymouth and have the town in the limits of the 1st Company I think there may be some difficulty in that case, there are in Plymouth about one hundred men liable to perform military duty and as no enlisted company is allowed more than sixty four privates the officer commanding the battalion company would call on all above that number and of course the town of Plymouth would get no relief by the proposed alteration, but on this subject your Excellency will judge more correctly than my self.

I have not been informed respecting the situation of the flank company in Roxbury,

I am sir with sentiments of respect your
Excellencys obedient and verry
humble serv^{t},
RUSSEL C. ABERNETHY

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr,

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr, Sharon Con —

[Endorsed] Genl. R. C. Abernethy 5. March 1817 rec^{d} 7th answ^{d} 8th.

JONATHAN MAY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:64]

WOODSTOCK Ctt March 1817

To his Exl John Cotton Smith Esq

Dear Sr in compliance with Your order I causd legal notice to be given the associatiates of those persons in the town of Pomfret (Abington Society) to meet on the 4th day of March in order to make choice of their proper Officers they accordingly met & made choice of George Sharp for their Captain Scarborough Osgood for their Lieut & Payson P. [Gr]osvenor for their Ensign. they also requested me to inform you that they wishd no material alteration in their Uniform from the Infantry except their head dress they wish instead of a hat to have a Cap something like that of the light Infantry or first flank Co of our regt — — — — — — In the new Organization of the Militia their appears to be a mistake in the expressions of the order respecting the local situation of the Co in the (North or Muddy Brook) society & that of Thompson the order says that the society of North Woodstock or Muddy Brook Society shall form one Co. it also says that the Town of Thompson shall form another Co. which mistake originated from the adjutant Generals not knowing that part or a corner of the Town of Thompson is annexed to sd Muddy Brook Society — — I have written to him on the subject he informd me that he was not autherd to rectify the mistake I wish Your Exy to annex those Inhabitants belonging to sd society subject to Milatary duty to the Co in sd Muddy Brook Society again if you shall(judge proper) as they have of late Years done duty in sd Co. and it is the wish of a large portion of them still to belong to sd Co. if Your Exy should think proper to make that alteration You will pleas to write me on the subject & an order to rectify the same — — — — remain Your friend & humble Servt

JONATHAN MAY Collonel
of the 11th Regt of Infantry

NB Your order for the choice of Officers in the 3d flank Co

will be return^{d} to the General Assembly in due form in order for them to be Commission^{d} agreeable to Your request — — —

J — M.

[Superscribed] To His Ex^{y} John C. Smith Esq Captain Genl State of Conn — — Sharon Woodstock Ct March 6th 1817 Pomfret March 7th

[Endorsed] Col. Jon^{a}. May 11th. Reg^{t} — 6th. March 1817 rec^{d}. 14th answ^{d}. 15th —

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:65]

NORWICH 6th March 1817

My dear sir

By the mail of the 4th instant, I have received your Excellency's favour of the 22^{d} Ultimo

I know of no error which occurred in the formation of the Militia, but those which have been corrected and those mentioned in your favour of the 22 — — — But having heard it *remarked*, that *many* errors had intervened in the formation of the militia — — I was apprehensive that some errors had occurred, which were unknown to me — — In the 3^{d} regiment will not the formation of the New Salem Company, require an alteration in the description of the 3^{d} & 7th companies, & ought not the new formed Company at Millington to be described as forming the 2^{d} flank Company of the 3^{d} regiment? — — — — In the 11th reg^{t} it was my intention that the 5th company should include the whole of Muddy Brook Society — — — if that should be approved it will require an alteration in the limits of the 6th Company

The first Society in Canterbury extends into and includes a small part of the *Town* of Plainfield, which fact was unknown to me at the time the formation of the 5 reg^{t} took place — — and I apprehend the word *society* was adopted as having been used by the officers, who presented me in writing a plan for forming companies, and from which but little variation took

place — — That part of Plainfield lying within the first ecclesiastical society of Canterbury, is within about one mile from Canterbury Meeting House, (and is about three miles from the Meeting House in the 1st Society of Plainfield) and *I believe* until the new arrangement; was included within the limits of the *Canterbury Light Infantry Company as established by the Legislature* — — — — But what are the wishes of the Inhabitants in that part of Plainfield, described as that belonging to the 1st society I am unable to say, nor what were the wishes of the Officers; excepting from the description given by them to me for the limits of the 2d company — — — —

I can not explain how the error should have occured in assigning Officers to Companies in the 24th regiment — — —

I am with much respect and esteem
very sincerely yours — — — — —
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

P S I can not give any information respecting the officers for New Salem Company should one be formed by that Society — —

I can enquire if information is desired

His Excellency Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon Via New Haven

[Endorsed] Ad. Gen[l]. Huntington 6. March 1817 rec. 14th —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO RUSSEL C. ABERNETHY

[11:66]

SHARON 8th. March 1817

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 15th instant is received — Accept my thanks for your prompt attention to my request — The arrangement you propose meets my entire approbation and it may be well, if opportunity offers, to let all concerned know that the projected alterations will be sanctioned in General orders very shortly —

You omitted to mention in what manner the commissioned

officers of the present companies will be affected by the change — I am wholly unacquainted with their local situation — Will it do for instance to let the captain of the present 6th company, if he resides in Plymouth, command the proposed first company? and so of the others as well subalterns as captains — You doubtless understand me, & I shall be obliged by your opinion as to the course proper to be pursued —

In haste I am Dr. Sir your obt.
& hum. sert. —

Genl Abernethy —
[Endorsed] To Genl. Abernethy —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY

[11:67]

Sharon 8. March 1817 —

Dr. Sir

Your favour of the 25th ulto — is received with its enclosures —

Altho' I am very anxious to decide on [and] arrange the equipments & uniform of your corps and am sorry the arrangement has been so long delayed, still in my view it is of far less importance that the order should issue immediately than that it should go forth correctly —

On examining the militia act I do not perceive that the commander in chief is empowered to prescribe *bayonets* to the Riflemen — Will this omission in the law, which I deeply regret, vary your opinion with respect to the length of the Rifle? — In recommending a barrel of 2 feet 9 inches you expressly calculate on a bayonet of 16 inches — If the latter can not be *injoined* upon the men, & it is but too evident that it cannot, would you extend the former to *three* feet — the length now proposed by the war department? — Or would you prefer that no order fixing the standard should issue, until the legislature shall have an opportunity to determine whether or not bayonets are to be used by the Rifle corps — It is of much consequence that we com-

mence this business properly — and I shall therefore be gratified to receive your reply to these queries —

I am much pleased with the uniform for the commissioned officers & privates — as soon as you furnish me with the wishes of the general & field officers & staff respecting their dress the whole shall be embraced as it ought to appear, in one order — Meanwhile that your commissioned officers & men may be allowed as much time as possible to equip themselves would it not be well for you to address a circular to them describing the dress *as* approved — informing them it will be sanctioned by a General order as soon as other requisite details are prepared — giving the companies formed from the late state troops their choice, or any others who may have adopted it, to retain the uniform of that corps, and allowing the companies assuming the new dress a reasonable time to procure it — say 'till the first of September next or a longer term if desired —

Whilst I am writing, your letter of the 3d. instant is received — The time proposed for procuring the rifles does not appear to me too long — But you will perceive the necessity of favouring me with a speedy answer to the foregoing inqueries before I shall feel quite easy to issue the order — and you will also see that I have anticipated your wishes in leaving it optional with the companies to adopt the new dress —

I am Dr. Sir your friend & obt.
Srt J. C. S —

Gen1 WHITTELSEY —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO WILLIAM C. ATWATER

[11:68]

SHARON 8. March 1817 —

Sir

I have received your letter requesting a discharge from the office of 4th Lieutenant in the 2nd comp. of Foot guard —

Applications of this nature should always be accompanied by the recommendation of the Major Commandant — I doubt

not that officer will give me his candid opinion of the case — and until it is received I must defer a decision —

You appear to be already apprized that a dismission from the guards considering the recent date of your commission will subject you to duty in the Militia infantry — I am truly sorry for your misfortunes — but I indulge the hope that on a fair view of all circumstances you will deem it most advisable to retain your place in the excellent company with which you are connected —

I am Sir your ob^{t}. sr^{t}.

M^{r}. W^{M}. C. Atwater —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SELDEN HUNTINGTON

[11:69]

Sharon 8. March 1817

Sir —

I have received your letter of the 3^{d}. instant — The original order for the choice of officers in the militia should always be returned to the General Assembly — If this has been omitted by mistake & no commissions have consequently issued to your self & your subalterns I feel no hesitation in authorizing you to act in your several capacities until the rising of the next General Assembly — In the meantime care must be taken that the order is duly returned to that body —

It does not seem advisable to vary the instructions relative to enlistments into the flank companies as contained in the General order of the 15th August last unless under special circumstances — and those circumstances should be stated *by the Colonel of the regiment* accompanied with his recommendation as to the particular company or companies from which enlistments ought to be allowed —

I am Sir your obedient & hm. ser^{t}.

J. C. S —

P. S. The petition you mention has not been received — Should one be presented, a hearing will be allowed to all concerned —

Capt. Huntington

ENOCH FOOTE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:70]

BRIDEPORT March 9th 1817

Sir I have recd your Excellencys Letter of the 6th inst. and notised the Contents — I am not possest of the necessary information you require — but will get the earlyist and best information posable and without delay give your Excellency every information in my power — but Sir as you are pleased to inform me that their is to be a Supplementary order issued I take the liberty to give your Excellency some further information in regard to limits of Companys in the 4th Brigade which — in my opinion — ought to be notised — it is in the 4th Regt — the Town of Trumbull under the old Law formed one Company — and altho this Company was formed from local Limits without Enlistment yet for a number of years had been intitled to the priviledgs of a Granidier Company in the Late 28th Regt and the officers Commisions ware granted accordingly — when the Adjt Genl was here he asked my advice what ought to be done the Case being singular — perhaps not another in the state — I hardly new how to form my opinion — as it was undestood that all flank Companys ware to retain there priviledgs — yet a flank Company Could not be Compeled to dress in uniform without Enlistment — and that no one could be compeled to Enlist under those Surcumstances however — the Adjt Genl thought proper to cover the Town of Trumbull within the Limits of the nearest Company and that would drive all in that Town to Enlist rather than go a distance to perform Military duty — to have formed two Companys in the Town of Trumbull would destroyed both as their is but men enough for one good company — the experiment has been tryed — the Limits of a Company formed in the North part of the Town of Stratford — the No. I do not recolect — was extended over the whole Town of Trumbull — this in part had the affect expected for at lest 9 tenths of them Enlisted imediatly which formed an handsome Company — — but now coms the dificulty — — in every Town their is more or less persons — that is doubtfull wheather they ought to do duty or not — another set of Crabed

ones — Likewize new sujicts arrive at a proper age to do duty dayly — of corse the officers of the Stratford Company have every muster day to traverse over the whole town of Trumbull to sarch out *amongst strangers* and warn those who will sildom if ever appear in thir company for if they are such as would ornement thir company — they will imedialey Enlist after warning — the officers have complained bitterly to me — and the Sergts have all Come to the determination to be turned into the ranks if they are ordered on this duty again — further in the Town of Huntington two Companys are formed — and it is evident from the information I Can get that the Company in parish of New Stratford taks more than a proportion of the men in that Town — the Company in the parish of Ripton being much the smallest under the old Law their ware 2 Companys in this town and the Ripton parish Company the largist — the Adj^{t} Genl altered the Limits by takeing from Ripton and placing to New Stratford Company — but he took two much the diferance in favour of New Stratford is now about the same as it was under the old Law in favor of Ripton I barely give your Excellency this informan without any opinion of my own — and have no doubt your Excellency will parden me for So doing and will [take] such notis of it as its merrits deserves — — — — —

With Sinscor respect I remain
your Excellencys obe^{t} Humble Servt
ENOCH FOOTE

His Excellency J C SMITH Esqr
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esqr Sharon
[Endorsed] Genl. Enoch Foote 9. March 1817 rec^{d}. 21st — answ^{d}. 22^{d} —

HUDSON & COMPANY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:71]

HARTFORD 11 March 1817

Sir,

M^{r}. Goodwin has just handed us your Excellency's letter of 6th instant. M^{r}. Eddy has addressed us on the same

subject, to whom we shall endeavour to give such information as will be satisfactory & promote as far as in our power his laudable undertaking.

On the particular point to which your Excellency's letter refers, we take the liberty of stating, that the north line of this State, as far as it has been ascertained, is laid down correctly on the map published by our late firm. The west side of the river including the break opposite Granby is a line agreed upon by the two States, & is from actual survey; that east of the river is an *unsettled line* & by the advice of the late Governour Griswold to whom the question was particularly submitted it was laid down a *strait* line. We shall at all times be obliged by any information that will enable us to render our map more correct; and have no objection to the communication of any intelligence that may be useful to Mr Eddy, whose plan according to his letter to us, is to publish "an American Atlas". —

We are Sir, very respectfully
Yr. Ob. Serts,
HUDSON & Co.

His ExcellY. Gov. SMITH
[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon, C
[Endorsed] Hudson & Co — de Map of Con. recd. 14th. March 1817 —

RUSSEL C. ABERNETHY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:72]

TORRINGTON March 12th, AD. 1817.

Sir,

Your Excellencys favor of the 8th. instant is recd, and I am happy to have it in my power to state, that the location of the officers in the companies affected by the proposed alteration could hardly have been more fortunate, there is in Plymouth no commissioned officer except those assigned to the flank company, in the proposed 1st, Company. One Captain, two Lieutenants (one of which is out of health & has applied for a

discharge) and one Ensign, in the 6th, company one Captain and one Ensign, therefore there will be no loss of officers by the proposed arrangement.

When I was at Plymouth last week I called at Genl, Potters, he was not at home and I was not able [to] learn his opinion respecting the alteration contemplated. I saw him yesterday at Litchfield, he said he regreted it verry much that he did not see me as he was anxious that Plymouth should be formed into one company, and when I informed him of the alteration I had proposed to your Excellency, he appeared verry much pleased with it,

I am Sir with much respect your obedient
and verry humble servt,
RUSSEL C. ABERNETHY

His Excellency Govr. SMITH,
[Superscribed] His Excellency John C. Smith Esquire Sharon Contt, Torrington March 12th
[Endorsed] Genl. R. C. Abernethy 12. March 1817

CHAUNCEY WHITTELSEY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:73]

MIDDLETOWN March 13th 1817

I recd Your Excellys Letter of the 8th last night. I was aware that in the description of the Rifle many things were mentioned which could not be *ordered* — it was thought expedient however to give a complete description of a Rifle, & the order as to length & Caliber being given, the rest might be matter of recommendation.

I think 2 ft 9— a sufficient length for the barrel, whether the Bayonet is used or not — a barrel if three, with so large a Caliber as 32 pr lb is heavy as to be inconvenient. Nothwithstanding the present standard of the War department is 3 ft — yet the Rifles now making for the U. States are but 2 ft 9 I — & are considered as improvements on the standard.

I am also of opinion that the order relating to the Rifle

should issue now — the Legislature can make provision for the Bayonet before any contracts can be completed. And many of the Companies only wait a Recommendation to get there Rifles Bayonets &c

It will not probably be in my power to recommend an Uniform for the Brigade & Regimental Staff untill May. I have sent to Washington to get some further information relating to Uniform, shall probably receive it this Month — I shall then call the Field Staff Officers to consult & advise

As there is no essential connection between the Uniform of Companies & that of Field Officers, & the Men are anxiously waiting to get there Uniforms, I hop y^r^ Excel^y^ will be induced to issue an order as respects the Grey Uniform immediately. Perhaps the same object may be accomplished, by giving me an official acceptance of the Uniform proposed & an order directing the length & Caliber of the Rifle — that I may issue an order & recommendation as suggested.

Most of the Companies will be in Uniform in May if that is done.

I am with much respect
y^r^ Excell^y^'s friend & very
obed^t^ Ser^t^
CH^Y^ WHITTELSEY

[11:74]

*His Excell^y^*
John C Smith

I would not presume to suggest forms to y^r^ Excel^y^ but to explain myself — perhaps it would answer to say, — The Uniform as reported by you & amended is accepted — The Barrel of the Rifle will be 2 ft 9 I— in length — Caliber to carry a Ball of half an ounce avoirdupoise — You are authorized to issue an order accordingly — — —

I can then issue an order & recommend such things as may not be included in an order — —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Gen[l]. Whittelsey 13. March 1817
[11:74] Printed circular not included in this publication

JOHN B. BOLLES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:75]

New London March 15th 1817

To John Cotton Smith Esq
Governor of the State
of Connecticut

Sir Having served as a private in the Militia of the State of Connecticut from the year 1804 untill the year 1811 I was then made a Searjant in the 8th company of the third Regiment and third brigade and have acted as searjant of said company untill this time having during that period been promoted from the fourth and so up to the 1st Searjantcy during which period I have never been absent from my duty except once and then prevented by unavoidable necessity and have at all times conducted myself as a good Soldier so that neither the Captain of said Company nor any other person could complain of want of attention to my duty or any unsoldierlike behaviour but have at all times behaved myself in such a manner as to gain the Esteem and confidence of my superiour officers — after the reorganization of the Militia the last fall the company to which I belonged (the 8th) together with the 6th and part of the first were made one company (the fifth.) and in January last we proceeded to the choice of Officers when from ceartain causes such as the *influence of* new *voters* — or from *political animosity* or from the cause that some of the other candidates using the influence of their friends to aid them I was superceeded by the seargants under me and am now obliged to do duty in my old capacity as first Searjant Such being the unpleasant state of my case I called on Maj Gen Isham for a discharge who informed me that he was unable to assist me but that I must apply to your Excellency who would afford such relief as the nature of the case required viz by giving me a discharge from the Militia Taking my case into your wise

consideration and viewing the unpleasant situation in which I am placed by being superceeded by the Seargants whose warrants were of a much later date than my own the length of service and the manner I have conducted myself while doing duty as a Soldier your Excellency will order the Col or other proper officer to grant me a discharge from any further duty
— — — —

With sentiments of
high consideration and
respect I remain your
Excellencys obedient and
humble servant
JOHN B BOLLES

[Superscribed] To his Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon
[Endorsed] Mr. J. B. Bolles 15. March 1817 recd. 21st. answd. 22.

GENERAL ORDER

[11:76]

Whereas it has been duly

It being certified to me that on the fourth day of March instant the third flank company recently established in the eleventh regiment of infantry did in pursuance of orders issued for that purpose duly make choice of George Sharp for their Captain Scarborough Osgood for their Lieutenant and Payson P. Grovesnor for their Ensign, I do therefore hereby authorize & empower them the said [ ] to execute the duties appertaining to offices whereunto they are respectively appointed until the rising of the General Assembly in May next, and I do require that they be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Given under my hand &c —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JONATHAN MAY

[11:77]

SHARON 15. March 1817

Sir

I have received your favour of the 6th instant — The

foregoing, which may be seperated from this letter, is an order authorizing the officers elected by the 3rd. flank company in the regiment under your command to act in their several capacities until the rising of the next General Assembly —

The uniform proposed by the company meets my approbation — I think however their coats should be shorter than those of the infantry — a distinction which you are sensible is always considered as appropriate to light troops — I have no doubt the company contemplate the same thing, altho' it is not expressly mentioned in your letter —

The Adjutant General had informed me of the mistake you mention in the description of the 5th company in your regiment — and I am about issuing an order to correct that and a few similar errours which took place in the organization in consequence of not knowing at that time the true state of facts — The order is delayed only until returns can be received from some other parts of the state — Should it not reach you in season for the May trainings you are hereby authorized & I issue instructions accordingly to consider that the whole of Muddy brook Society (as well that which lies in Thompson as that which is included in Woodstock) is to be comprized within the limits of the 5th company — such being the original intention —

I am Sir respectfully your
obt & hm. Sert.—

Col. May —
[Endorsed] To Col. Jona. May 15. March 1817 —

GEORGE HOADLY TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:78]

New Haven March 19. 1817

His Excellency
John C Smith Esqr
Sir

By the particular request of the Captains in the first regiment of Horse Artillery I am induced to address your Excellency on the subject of a further order relative to the enlisting of men from the Infantry companies

The 5th section of our Militia law provides that the enlisted companies shall be filled from exempts or from such companies of infantry as the commander in chief may direct &c

In your Excellencys favor of the 9th March 1816 was contained a permission to recruit from such portions of the late State troops as had not entered any select corps. If a further latitude should be required to give the companies their complement your Excellency expressed a wish to receive the information.

It has been found impossible to obtain many recruits from the State Troops, most of them having entered some other select corps There is no difficulty in enlisting suitable men from the infantry if the authority were given. There is a general wish among all possessed of horses to join the Horse Artillery

With great respect I am Sir
Your Excellencys most obt servant
Geo. Hoadly
Col. 1st regt H Artillery

[Superscribed] His Excellency John C Smith Esqr Sharon Conn —

[Endorsed] Col. Geo. Hoadly 19. March 1817 recd. 21st answd. 22nd

GENERAL ORDERS

[11:79]

Brigade of Riflemen March 20th 1817 —

The First Regiment will comprize the companies whose numbers and places of rendezvous are as follows — to wit —

First company — Colchester
Second company — Plainfield —
Third company — East Windsor —
Fourth company — Coventry —
Fifth company — Marlborough —
Sixth Company Chatham —
Seventh company — Groton —
Eighth company — Pomfret

Ninth company — Griswold —

The second Regiment will comprize the companies whose numbers and places of rendezvous are as follows — to wit —

First company — Middletown
Second company — Durham & Meriden —
Third company — North Milford —
Fourth company — Litchfield —
Fifth company — Huntington & Trumbull —
Sixth company — Hartford —
Seventh company — Pettipauge —
Eighth company — Newtown —
Ninth company — Oxford —

The uniform dress for the Riflemen reported by the Brigadier General under date of the 28th ultimo and 7th instant is hereby established and that officer will communicate the details to the corps accordingly; reserving nevertheless to such companies as have adopted the uniform of the late State troops under the permission heretofore given, the right to retain the same or to assume the dress now proposed, at their election — —

The barrel of the Rifle will be two feet and nine inches in length with a caliber to carry a ball of half an ounce avoirdupois; the rifles to be procured within twenty months from the date of the present order —

By order of the Commander in chief —

[Endorsed] General order Regiments of Riflemen Uniform & Rifle for Do

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ENOCH FOOTE

[11:80]

Sharon 22. March 1817

Dear Sir —

I have received your favour of the 9th instant, and have transmitted a copy of it to the Adjutant General for his report thereon — It shall be my endeavour to remove the ground of complaint if possible — Be so good as to favour me with your opinion whether the flank company in Trumbull may

not with propriety be made *a located* flank company under the late resolve of Assembly giving that power to the Commander in chief? —

I have Sent the Supplementary order to the Adjutant General for distribution, and must therefore request you to forward to him by letter at an early day the information respecting the 6th company 9th regt. referred to in my last — and I will thank you to transmit the same information to me also — It is not necessary to delay that order for the purpose of making the alterations you suggest — They may be provided for by a special regulation adopted to the particular cases —

I am Dr. Sir in haste but in [ ] your
friend & ob. sert. J. C. S —

Brigr. Genl. Foote —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN B. BOLLES

[11:81]

Sharon 22. March 1817

Sir

In reply to your letter I would observe that it is a standing regulation not to discharge a sergeant on the ground merely of his having been superceded, nor indeed on any ground without a particular recommendation from the Colonel or an officer superiour to a Colonel. There may be circumstances in your case entitling it to an exemption from the general rule. As you have referred to Major General Isham, I should be glad to receive from him a statement of the facts & his opinion — It will give me pleasure to afford you relief if it can be done with propriety —

I am Sir your obedient sert.

Mr. Bolles

GENERAL ORDERS —

[11:82]

State of Connecticut March 22nd 1817

To correct certain errours which from the want of precise

information, arose in arranging the Infantry under the General orders of the 15th August AD 1816 as well as to introduce such modifications into that arrangement as experience has shown to be advisable, the Commander in Chief has thought proper to establish the following alterations (in the organization of the Infantry) — to wit —

In the Third Regiment

The Seventh company instead of its present limits will hereafter include the Society of Millington and the whole of the Society of New Salem.

The limits of such companies as may be affected by this regulation are to correspond therewith —

In the fifth Regiment —

The description of *the Second company* as contained in the General orders of the 15th. August last is hereby so varied as to substitute the words "the town of Plainfield" in lieu of the words "the first society in Plainfield" — and that part of the town of Plainfield which lies within the bounds of the first society in Canterbury is hereby annexed to *the fifth company* — The limits of the said Second and fifth companies are to conform to this regulation —

In the ninth Regiment —

The Sixth company (which is erroneously bounded in the general order above mentioned) will hereafter comprize the following limits — to wit — that part of Norwalk which lies west of a line beginning at Wantwood's cove, thence following the brook to the bridge near Walter Hoyt's and thence to David Pine's — thence northwardly to the house of Epanetus Kellogg — thence north by the road to New Canaan line —

In the eleventh Regiment,

The *fifth company* will include the whole of the Society of Muddy Brook (so called) lying in the towns of Woodstock and Thompson — The limits of the fifth & sixth companies are comsequently to conform to this regulation —

A *third flank* company is established whose place of rendezvous is in the society of Andover — —

In the Sixteenth regiment

The first company instead of the limits heretofore assigned to it will hereafter include that part of the first society in Litchfield which lies East of the line described as the eastern boundary of the fifth company — and also the Society of Northfield in Litchfield —

The Sixth company instead of the limits heretofore assigned to it will hereafter include the Society of South Farms —

The *third flank company,* in virtue of a resolve of the General Assembly passed in October last, is hereby constituted a *located flank company* embracing all subjects of military duty within the town of Plymouth excepting such as either have already legally enlisted or may hereafter duly enlist into other corps. —

In the twentieth Regiment —

The First company in addition to its present limits will hereafter comprize that part of the society of Hadlime which lies in the town of East Haddam —

It having been represented to the Commander in Chief that in the twenty fourth regiment the officers assigned to the third company should have been allotted to the eighth and that the officers assigned to the eighth company should have been allotted to the third; the colonel of that regiment is hereby authorized on his ascertaining the existence of the alledged mistake to correct the assignment accordingly —

By order of the Commander in chief —

Remarks —

Your plan of sending extracts of the order to such brigades as are interested therein without transcribing the whole for each, meets my approbation —

As you seemed in a former letter to be in some doubt whether the annexation of a part of Plainfield to the 5th comp. 5th regiment was really called for would it not be well to *ascertain* the [ ] of it before you transmit the extract to that brigade — The order may be varied accordingly if necessary — If you feel certain however no delay need be made —

I have waited for but have not yet received official information from the Brigadier General whether the mistake in the description of the 6th company in the 9th regiment really exists

— but I have little doubht of it — I shall however this day write to Gen[l]. Foote to send the statement to you — & you may delay sending that part of the order for a short time — I herewith send you a copy of a letter from him relative to some other alterations in his brigade & am desirous of your opinion respecting them — How would it answer to *locate* the flank company in Trumbull? — The present order need not be delayed for these purposes —

Major Selden was to have sent me before this the express assent of the 2nd. flank company in the 3rd. regiment to their being disbanded — It is not yet arrived, I therefore say nothing in the order respecting that and the *number* of the Millington flank company — a seperate order for those two objects may be hereafter made —

[Endorsed] General orders for the Infantry — 22. March 1817 & remarks —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[11:83]

SHARON 22. March 1817

Dear sir

I have received your favour of the 6th. instant —

Enclosed you have a General order relative to the Rifle corps — I suppose it will be only necessary to send a certified copy of it to Brig. General C. Whittelsey — At some convenient time I will furnish you with the report containing the details of the uniform to be preserved in your office —

I also enclose a General order regarding the Infantry — The remarks subjoined to the order supercede the necessity of observing further than to request you will see that the New Salem company is duly supplied with officers — It so happens that the alterations in the 16th. regiment require no new arrangements respecting the officers in the 1st & 6th. companies — nor in the located flank company —

The copy of a letter from Gen[l]. Foote herewith sent is

noticed in the explanatory remarks above mentioned and I doubt not will receive due regard —

I have received a letter from the Secretary of war requesting a printed or manuscript copy of our law organizing the militia, in pursuance of a resolution of the Senate of the U. States — a similar request it seems is made of the Executives of the other states — I must desire you to transmit to the Secretary one of the copies you have lately procured to be printed — and I shall accordingly notify him that he may expect it from your office —

I am D^r^. sir your friend & o^t^.

Ser^t^. — — J. C. S —

M. Genl. E. Huntington —

Ad.Genl.

Be pleased to give me early notice of the receipt of this letter & enclosures

[Endorsed] To Ad. Genl. Huntington enclosing gen^l^. orders — Genl. Foote's letter & order to send copy of laws to the war department —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO GEORGE HOADLY

[11:84]

Sharon 22. March 1817 —

D^r^. Sir

Your letter of the 19th. instant is received — By adverting to the General Orders of the 15th August last at the 24th. page of the printed copy you will perceive that the Horse Artillery as well as other select corps are authorized to recruit from the Infantry under certain limitations — If there are no supernumeraries beyond the legal complement of the infantry companies, it will be necessary, before additional orders are given, to make known to me the actual strength of the infantry in the vicinity of the Horse Artillery company proposed to be recruited and the number of recruits the latter may require, so that a due proportion may be procured —

It was hoped that the consolidation of so many regiments of infantry would furnish a sufficient number of men to fill the

select corps without reducing the companies of infantry below the legal standard —

I am D^{r}. sir your ob^{t}. & hum
ser^{t}.

Col. G. Hoadly —

JAMES PRINCE AND ELI ADAMS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:85]

Weston Con^{t}, March 22^{d} 1817 — —

To His Excellency John Cotton Smith,

Sir,

Colonel Hall placed in my hands a letter from you requesting to know whether the Company that associated in Weston as riflemen, were desirous to be formed into a flank Company of Infantry agreeably to your Excellencys, proposition, Suggested at New Haven in Oct^{r}, last, & Stating that you were Authorised to accept them as Such, Should they present their Application for that purpose — — — Agreeably to your Excellencys request, as the purport of this communication, I requested the Company to convene on the 20th instant, at the place previously chosen for their parade, for the purpose of Ascertaining their Minds on this Subject, at which time & place (the day not being verry favorable) there was about 30 of the Association attended, & out of that number 26 Signified their wish to become a flank Company, & likewise some that I have promiscuously Seen Since that day — — —

It is the wish of the Company, if your Excellency thinks proper to favor it, that the Old Rifle Association may be transfered to that of a flank Company without any alteration — But not knowing but your Excellency would require a New petition for the privilege of a Flank Com^{y} have thought proper to Subjoin one that might be made Use of in case your Excellency Should deem it Necessary — — Which would tend to prevent further delays, & unnecessary communication on the Subject — — —

Very Respectfully your

Obet hum[l] serv[ts]
JAMES PRINCE
ELI ADAMS

P. S. Your Excellency will have the goodness to answer this communication as soon as convenient, directed to be left at Bridgeport Post Office — —

[On inner leaf of the foregoing]
To His Excellency John Cotton Smith — — — We the undersigned members of the Weston Rifle Association request your Excellency to form us into a flank Company of Infantry in the 24th Reg[t], & your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray
WESTON March 20th 1817 — — —

1 James Prince
2 Eli Adams
3 Nathaniel Silliman
4 Bradley Treadwell
5 Moses H Staples
6 Sturges Johnson
7 Roswell Turney
8 Ebenezer Johnson
9 Silliman Hall
10 Jonathan Gould
11 Lyman Whitehead
12 Cyrus W Burton
13 Peter Lyon
14 Benjamin Hall
15 Isaac Hall
16 William Squire
17 Oliver Beers
18 Burton M Beers
19 Isaac Whitehead
20 Anson Wheeler
21 Isaac Hubbell
22 Daniel B Sherwood
23 Daniel Jackson
24 Daniel Silliman
25 Isaac Sherwood
26 John Turney Jun[r]

———

Walker Lyon
Lucius Jackson
Lewis Hall
Nath[l] Hubbell

NB— The four last names are those that have subscribed to a Flank Co[y] Since the 20th — — & it is presumed that those that were not present on the 20th will generally wish to become members of a Flank Com[y] — — — — —

PETITION FROM CHATHAM

[11:86]

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq Governor of the State of Connecticut, the subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Chatham & residing in the first Society of said Town respectfully represent —

That they are members of the third Company in the 20th Regiment of Infantry in the militia of this State, and that thier are within the local limits of the said Company about one hundred & thirty persons who are by law liable to perform military duty, — — that the subscribers and the members of the said Company generally who reside in the said first Society are extremely incommoded by the present organization of the militia, & are subjected to burthens to which they cannot feel reconciled, & which they presume your Excellency on being made acquainted with them, will deem to be unreasonable — that the present extreme limits of the said Company are at least fourteen miles distant from each other on a right line, & that according to the present arrangement the subscribers are at least six miles distant from the place of the Company parade, & that they will probably be compelled to travel from 12 to 20 miles to attend regimental reviews, — — that in such a state of things it will frequently be less expensive for the members of the said Company residing in the said first Society to omit their military duty altogether & to submit to the fines imposed by Law, than to perform their duty — — The subscribers would further suggest that within the limits of the said first society their is a sufficient number of persons liabl by law to perform military duty to compose a company which would be respectable in point of numbers, and that the present inconveniences & burthens of which the Subscribers complain would be obviated and relieved if a Company of Infantry were organized within the limits of the said first Society and anexed to the 6th Regiment — In such an event the travel of the subscribers to perform their military duty on Regimental reviews would be from 3 to 6 miles.

The subscribers therefore respectfully solicit your Excellency to take the subject into consideration and on being satisfied of the justice of the above representation to make the arrangement which the subscribers have suggested

CHATHAM March 24th 1817

ELISHA COVELL
ASAPH HALL
DAVID F HALL
SAML B HALL
JONA HURLBUT
SAMUEL BROWN
AARON BLISS
SETH TRYON
SAML BOWERS
SAMUEL BOWERS JR
GEORGE GILLUM
JAMES FLOYD
JERE HALING
CHARLES WOOD
GUY COOPER
HALSEY HURLBUT
TIMOTHY M EDWARDS
DAVID D CHURCHILL
HENRY HALING
MARCIUS WETHERILL
CALVIN WETHERILL
JABEZ HALL 3d
DAVID CORNWALL
DAVID STEWART 3rd
DANIEL STEWART 2nd
HENRY H HOLDRIDGE
HALSEY SMITH
ERASTUS BUCK
SAMUEL BUCK 2d
ELIJAH HUBBARD
BENJAMIN DART
LORING STOCKING
CHARLES HURLBUT
FRANCIS S PELTON
JOHN ARNOLD
DANIEL PENFIELD
REUBEN SMITH
SYLVESTER PENFIELD
SETH EDDY
HIRAM BAILEY
ROBERT MCCLEVE
ELIPHALET BALEY
OLIVER PELTON
WM W. PELTON
DAVID COOPER
THOMAS COOPER JR
OLIVER DEAN
HIRAM HODGE
WILLIAM B. HALL
ISAAC POLLY
ORRIN WARNER
TIMOTHY CORNWELL
SANFORD PELTON
SIDNEY STOCKING
ALBERT GOODRICH
RALPH GOODRICH
GEORGE HALL
CILVESTOR HALE
ORREN HALE
JUSTUS BRADLEY
IRA CHAPMAN
PELEG R CLARK
ALANSON HURLBUT
ROBERT AKIN

NOAH STRICKLAND JONATHAN SHEPARD
JONATHAN PENFIELD JR

[on back page, in the handwriting of John Cotton Smith]

This petition was presented by Mr David Cornwall on the 1. April 1817. To obviate the difficulty in part (at least) it is proposed that the 3rd company be confined to the limits of Middle Haddam (provided there is a sufficient number) — and that the portion of the first Society in Chatham now belonging to said third company be formed into *a located flank company*; and as doubts are entertained whether the annexation of the company to the 6th regt can be legally be made, that they be considered as the 3rd flank company in the 20th regt for the present —
[Superscribed] Petition of Individuals in Chatham &c — 1. April 1817.

ENOCH FOOTE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:87]

BRIDGEPORT March 24th 1817

Dear Sir

The information respecting the bounds to the 6th Company 9th Regt — which your Excellency requested me to make to the Adgutant General I have forwarded to him this Day — which is as follows *Viz* —

Beginning at Wantwoods Cove so Called — thence following the Brook to the Bridge near David Prices Dwelling House — thence Northerly to the Dwelling House of Epenitus Kellegg — thence by the road to New Cannan Line — including the Houses on both sides the road — in answer to your Excellencys request for my opinion as to the propriety of forming the flank Company in Trumbull into a Located flank Company in conformity to the act deligating such power to the Commander in Chief — I am sorry to find the Letter of the 5th Section of the Military Law bore so hard against such a proseeding — yet the Spirit of the Law may be much in favor — and Justice and propriety (as this Case stands) altogether in favour — the Law must be

adherd to — yet I Cannot Conseive any way posable to remidy the present eavel unless this Company is so disposed off

With sinsear Esteam I am your
Excellencys ob^{nt} Humbl Ser^{vt}
ENOCH FOOTE

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esquire Sharon

[Endorsed] B. Genl Foote 24. March 1817 rec^{d} 2. April — wrote him 5th April see intra —

ELIZUR GOODRICH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:88]

YALE COLLEGE March 24. 1817

sir

President Davis has declined the Presidency of the College, and the Prudential Committee has appointed a meeting of the Corporation to be held in the Library on Teusday the 22^{d} of April next 2 °Clock P.M. and directed me to request your Excellencys attendance. I regret the occasion, but sincerely hope we shall have the pleasure of your Excellencys Company

I am
with sentiments
of respect & esteem
your Excelleys friend
ELIZUR GOODRICH

His Excellency Gov SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Sharon Conn

[Endorsed] From E. Goodrich de meeting of corporation Y. College — rec^{d} 2 April 1817

LEMUEL G. STORRS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:89]

[On inner leaf of Printed Brigade Orders.]

MIDDLETOWN 25th March 1817

Sir,

By direction of Brig Genl Whittelsey (who is called to

attend County Court at Haddam) I hand your Excellency copy of Brigade Orders issued under date of 21st Inst —

Genl W intends addressing your Excellency on the subject of the Rifle Brigade soon after his return from Court

Yr Excys Obt Servt
LEM G. STORRS
Lieut Col 2d Regr
Riflemen
Conn Militia

His Excy JOHN COTTON SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] B. Genl Whittelsey enclosing copy of his Brigade orders — recd 4. April 1817

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:90]

NORWICH 27th March 1817

My dear sir

Your Excellencys favour of the 22d with the inclosures therein referred to have been duly recd, and shall severally receive the necessary attention to meet your wishes — — — Respecting the subject of the company in Trumbull to which General Foote refers as a solitary instance — — permit me to say has frequently occurred in the formation of the Militia — — it was a course imperiously *demanded*, the law *required* a flank company to be in uniform & composed of inlisted men at the same time confirming former privileges — — In many instances I could find flank companies (holding such situations) from usage, some from *public* acts & some from resolves — — their attachments too strong rivetted for me to hazard a breach, unless modified in some degree to meet the law & comport with your instructions given on that occasion Your Excellency can form a pretty correct opinion of my situation, carrying a law into effect (the expediency of which I doubted) the letter & spirit of the law at variance in some degree, the jealousy of encroachment on priviledge either from law or usage *claimed*,

necessarily demanded that a course should be pursued the most conciliatory possible, not losing sight of the law — — The Case at Trumbull as stated by Gen[l] Foote was one which perplexed me, but from the advice of Col[o] Burr & Col[o] Burritt backed by Gen[l] Foote & the other officers I pursued the course reported to you forming the 4th reg[t] — — My *recommendation* on such occasions was to have the officers of the company select some suitable person in those extended companies for a non comm[d] Officer, (& let him be recommended to the company for the appointment), whose duty it would be to look up those whose age subjected them to duty & have them enrolled & also to warn all for duty who were liable by law — — The limits for the companies in the fourth regiment were agreed on by the officers present whose knowledge of the Geography of the towns I much respected — — How far your Excellency may think it expedient to form a *located* flank company in the present case is not for me to determine — — but I cannot avoid remarking that *by the law* every part of the state is comtemplated as being within the *limits* of a Battalion Company — — I think it probable General Foote may be able to give *a better dividing line* between New Stratford & Ripton Societies, than the one reported by me — — I can and do sincerely regret the unpleasant trouble which your Excellency has experienced in fixing limits to such jarring elements as compose the military companies — — Having completed a form for a circular for the Captains of Companies I have enclosed one for your Excellency — — Please accept assurances of my best respects for yourself & M[rs] Smith & believe me

very sincerely yours — —
EBEN : HUNTINGTON

NOAH B. BENEDICT TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:91]

LITCHFIELD March 27. 1817

Sir

I enclose to your Excellency a reccommendation by Col[n] Brinsmade of Gilbert S Minor 2[d] Lieutenant in the first troop

of horse in the 8th Regt of Cavalry, for a discharge from military duty. The case of this Officer has been heretofore stated to your Excellency both by Judge Smith & myself, & the reasons which were offered were deemed sufficient — He was not discharged because it was doubted whether he understood that he might afterwards be obliged to serve as a private — He is willing to take that riske upon himself & is still anxious to be released — I can only add that nothing to my knowledge has occurred since I conversed with your Excellency on the subject which renders it necessary that he should be retained in service, but that all the reasons for his discharge remain in undiminished force —

I am with sentiments of great respect Your Excellency's Obedient servt — —

NOAH B BENEDICT

His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH

[on inner leaf of the foregoing, in handwriting of John Cotton Smith]

SHARON 29. March 1817

Dr Sir

Agreeably to your request I enclose an order to the Captain of the 1 troop 5 regiment of cavalry for the choice of a second Lieutenant in the place of Mr. Minor whose resignation I have accepted upon the appointment of his successor —

Should I have misapprehended the name of the Captain be so good as to amend the order by erasing it & writing the true name —

I am Dr Sir sincerely your friend & ot Srt —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Hon. N.B.Benedict de discharge of Gilbert S. Minor 2 Lieut — 1 troop 5 Regt Cavalry — granted order issued 29. March 1817 — discharging from office

SOPHOS STAPLES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:92]

NEW HAVEN March 29th 1817

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith,

As I neglected by mistake in my last to mention the feathers,

it becomes necessary to communicate with your Excellency upon that part of the Uniform of the Light Infantry. — As the red topped feather and red plume seems not to correspond with the rest of the Uniform, the Officers and men have a wish that blue might be adopted: The Captain a blue and two black plumes, the other commiss[d] officers a large blue plume, the non commissioned officers and men a blue feather. Could your Excellency approve of this, or point out some other ornament for the Cap suitable to such an Uniform or leave it optional with the officers and men to take blue or black, this part of the dress would then be settled and the whole Uniform for the spring training established. There may be some difficulty in procuring the blue feather for the men, the black may be readily had; if however the blue can be found cheap in New York, they would look much better with our dress than any other. The non commissioned officers are to be distinguished only by their yellow shoulder knots, and the commissioned by the button which is round and of a larger size than the men's, epauletts yellow and ornaments and plumes in the cap. — —

Your Obedient Humble Servt[t]
SOPHOS STAPLES

[On inner leaf of the foregoing, in handwriting of John Cotton Smith]

SHARON 5. April 1817

Sir

Your letter of the 29th ult[o] is received — You will adopt the black or blue feather as shall be most agreeable — The colour of the epaulets & knots is approved — In number & mode of wearing them however they are to correspond with those worn in the battalion companies — I am Sir your Ob[t] Ser[t] J. C. S.

Capt. S. STAPLES —

[Superscribed] JOHN COTTON SMITH Capt. Genl. Conn[t] Militia Sharon

[Endorsed] Capt. So. Staples de uniform &[c] rec[d] 4. April 1817 answ[d] 5th See intra —

JOHN R. BOLLES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:93]

New London March 31st 1817

Sir

Enclosed you have the opinion of Col Moore the Col of the Regiment to which I belong relative to the circumstances detailed in my letter to you together with the affidavit of Maj Gen Isham. if from these you can consistently grant me a discharge you will confer on me a favor which shall never be forgotten by your

Obedient and humble
Servant
John R Bolles

[Superscribed] To his Excellency John C Smith Sharon
[Endorsed] Sergeant J.R. Bolles of N London — 31. March 1817 recd 5 April —

SIMEON HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:94]

Pomfret April 1st 1817

To his Excellency John C Smith Greeting

Sir

When a child having fallon some distance with the small of my back across the edge of a plank (which hurt me very much) from that day to this I have experience much pain because of it I am so lame at times that I could not ware it for my life stoop and touch the floor or earth and raise myself erect for which reason I ernestley and homely entreat your Honor to discharge me from military duty,

Of the above facts I can produce many witnesses

Another still more weighty reason I could advance but hoping that what I have already wrote is sufficient I forbare by subscribing myself your humble Servant and petitioner

Simeon Huntington

P M Should your Honor see fit to grant my petition you will

Sir much obleage your humble servent by sending it in a form of a letter by the first mail

[Superscribed] His Exly JOHN C SMITH Esqr Sharon Woodstoct Ct. April 3^{d} 1817

[Endorsed] Mr Sim^{n} Huntington for a discharge 7. April 1817 answ^{d} 12th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO ENOCH FOOTE

[11:95]

SHARON 5. April 1817 —

Dear Sir —

You will recollect an Association was formed last year in the town of Weston for the purpose of constituting a company of Riflemen — From the representation then made to me I thought favourably of the proposition — But it afterwards appeared by a remonstrance from the colonel & other officers of the 24th regiment that altho' the companies of infantry in that vicinity might not thereby be reduced below the legal complement yet that the regiment itself was not sufficiently large to justify such a diminution of its strength — The project was therefore abandoned to the great regret of the associates — I gave them encouragement however in October last that they might be formed into a flank company in the 24th regiment, provided the legislature should authorize any additional flank companies & be raised — Before the Session closed a resolve was passed by the Assembly in these words "that in all cases where in the opinion of the Captain general it will contribute to the strength or convenience of the militia he is empowered to raise or establish more than two flank companies to a regiment of Infantry and to locate the same as he shall judge expedient — provided the same be done before the rising of the General Assembly in October next" —

I have received by the last mail a letter from Mr James Prince one of the former associates in Weston enclosing an application to be formed into a flank company in the 24th regiment —

subscribed however by thirty names only — It is stated in the letter that the others would join as soon as an opportunity should be afforded them for that purpose —

It would be improper in my view to organize so small a number into a company — But to save time I have this day informed Mr Prince that when the application is filled with a sufficient number *without reducing thereby any battalion company below its legal complement,* he may deliver it into your hands and that you would accept it on those terms in my behalf & issue orders for a choice of officers — Accordingly it is my desire that you will take the trouble of receiving the application and *if the conditions above mentioned shall be complied with* that you will accept in my behalf the associates as the third flank company in the 24th regiment and issue orders to some suitable person to lead them to the choice of their officers —

I am Dr Sir with sincere regard
your obt & hm. Sert

B. General E. Foote

N.B. I have received your favour of the 24th ulto — The authority to form & *locate* additional flank companies you will perceive is contained in the resolution mentioned in the foregoing letter — You are correct in supposing it not to be conveyed by the Act of October 1815 — May not the town of Trumbull be relieved under the resolution?

It is not expedient to assign meter & bounds to the proposed flank company in Weston

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JAMES PRINCE

[11:96]

Sharon 5. April 1817

Sir —

Your letter of the 24th ulto — postmarked 31st is just received — It would be improper to organize *thirty men* only into a flank company — To save the time & trouble of multiplying communications on this subject I now forward instruc-

tions to General Foote to receive the application in my behalf when it shall be filled with a sufficient number of subscribers without reducing any battalion company below its legal complement, and to issue orders thereupon for a choice of officers — If the choice is announced to me in season, authority will be given the officers elect to act in their several capacities until the rising of the next general assembly —

I am Sir your obedient Ser^{t}

Mr J^{s} PRINCE

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO EBENEZER HUNTINGTON

[11:97]

SHARON 5. April 1817 —

Dr Sir

In accidentally looking at a memorandum of the General order under date of the 22nd March last, I am led to suspect that a mistake occurred in the copy sent you — that is to say — in establishing a third flank company in the eleventh Regiment I intended to have made its place of rendezvous the Society of *Abington* in Pomfret — — but I fear I have erroneously put down *Andover* instead of Abington — If so it was a mere slip of the pen & I must request you will take immediate measures to have it corrected — — An order had not long before been sent to the Colonel of the 11th to establish such a company in Abington in consequence of urgent recommendation from him & some of the best men in that part of the country — & orders had also issued for a choice of officers — It was mentioned in the General order merely to preserve the evidence of the arrangement in your office —

In haste I am Dr Sir
your friend & Sr^{t} —

Ad. Genl E. HUNTINGTON —

P.S. Your favour of the 27th ulto — has been received — Be pleased to inform me whether the mistake above mentioned appears upon the order

WRIT OF ELECTION

[11:98]

To the Sheriff of the county of and to the constables of the town of within said county Greeting —

Whereas the Hon. SYLVANUS BACKUS, elected a representative of the people of this State in the fifteenth congress of the United States has departed this life; and Whereas CHARLES DENISON Esquire, also elected a representative of the people of this state in the same congress, has declined an acceptance of the trust; —

Therefore By Authority of the State of Connecticut the said constables are hereby required to give legal warning to all the Freemen in said town of to meet at their usual place of Freeman's meeting on the monday following the first tuesday of April next at 10 o'clock in the forenoon; then & there to give their votes as the law directs for two representatives of the People of their state to fill the aforesaid vacancies in the fifteenth congress of the United States —

The said election is to be made from the gentlemen who stand in the nomination for representatives in congress returned to and completed at the General Assembly of this state in May last, a copy of which is hereunto subjoined. And the said constables are directed to deliver the same together with this writ to the Presiding officer of the said meeting; who is to call over in said meeting as the law directs the names of the persons now eligible contained in said nomination —

And the Presiding officer of said meeting will, as the law requires, receive and count the votes for each person certifying the numbers in words at full length and carefully transmit the certificate prepaired sealed up and endorsed as required by law to the Sheriff of the county aforesaid, together with this writ, within *six* days then next coming after said meeting. And the Sheriff aforesaid is hereby directed to convey the said votes so taken & sealed up in manner prescribed by law to the Governour of said state at the Council chamber in Hartford on the ninth day of May next —

Given under my hand at Sharon in said state the

day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen and in the forty first year of the Independence of the United States of America —

Governour

[Endorsed] Writ of Election — April 1817

ELIHU MOORE TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:99]

Sir

the Company under My Comand is very Small Consisting of twenty two Privates only therefore Should your Excellency Deem it Expedient to issue an order for filling the Ranks I Shall Be glad to Receive it By the Next Mail —

very Respectfully your Ob^{t} Servant

ELIHU MOORE

Capt 2^{d} Comp^{y} 3^{d} Regt Cavalry

TORRINGFORD April 8 1817

[written below in handwriting of John Cotton Smith]

Sir

Your letter is received — If you are furnished with the printed General orders of the 15th of August last, you will find I apprehend they contain such instructions as will enable you to recruit the company under your command — On the 24th page are these words — towit —

The battalion companies in your neighbourhood as reported to me must be sufficiently numerous I think to furnish the recruits you require without reducing them below their legal complement — If not, let their actual strength be stated from the muster rolls, that such orders may be given as shall be adapted to the case — I cannot but hope however the orders now in force will be adequate to your purpose —

I am Sir your ob^{t} Ser^{t}

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esqr Sharon Torringford C^{t} April 7th

[Endorsed] Capt. E. Moore of the cavalry — 8. April 1817 rec^{d} & answ^{d} 12th —

EBENEZER HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:100]

NORWICH 9th April 1817

My dear sir

Last Evening your Excellencys favour of the 5th came to hand; and on examination I find that the error to which you allude had occurred — after I had discovered the error, I had an opportunity of sending direct to General Salter to correct the error which he will receive this evening — — — The formation of the 3d flank company in the 11th regt was unknown to me until the receipt of the General order; and indeed thus, by establishing the rendezvous in Coventry I supposed it an appendage to the 21st

Accept assurance of my respect & esteem,
I am yours very sincerely —
EBEN: HUNTINGTON

His Excellency Governour SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency Governour SMITH Sharon

[Endorsed] Ad Genl E. Huntington 91 April 1817 — Recd 15th

HOBART ESTABROOK AND ELIPHALET HOLMES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:101]

EAST HADDAM April 9th 1817

Sir

At a meeting of the associated Flank company in Millington, it was proposed and voted that the said compy should Uniform themselves, in the following manner (viz) A black Leather Cap, with a strip of bear skin across the top, and in every respect similar to those worn by the Hebron Flank Company except a green Feather, and red top — a Coatee to be made of Blue woolen Cloth, red collars & cuffs, made single breasted and to button up close in the neck, and then two extra rows of buttons, one on each side, trimmed with white cord, from each button to the edge of the forebody, — — two buttons on each side the collar, — — three on the upper side of each cuff; — —

the pocket-lids to have four buttons on, or immediately below them; and all of them to be trimmed with white cord — — the skirts to be turned up with red — — — a white Vest — — — Blue woolen pantaloons trimmed with white cord — — black leather Stock and Boots — — — — — — —

The above is respectfully submitted to your Excellency, with a desire that it may be established as a Uniform for said Flank Company, should any part of it not please; — the Company it is presumed will cheerfully comply with any alterations which may be thought necessary — — — — — — —

Since the company was led to a choice of officers, there has a number of men (belonging to this society) came forward to enlist, who did not have an opportunity to sign the petition, and they are now subject to be called to New Salem by Capt Morgan — — I therefore beg your Excellency to give immediate orders for the enlistment of all those who are in our limits, that each may enjoy the same privileges in doing military duty

I am Sir with due respect
your very ob^{t} Servant
HOBART ESTABROOK JUN^{R}

His Excellency JOHN C SMITH Esq

[directly below the foregoing]

EAST HADDAM 9th April 1817

May it Please your Excelency — — it is presumed that you have received the return of the chose of Officers in the flank Company in Millington — before this time according to your Excelencies direction — the officers elect inform me they have consulted their Company as to their uniform and they agreed — on the same as above stated if that is not agreeable they will cheerfully vary as your Excelency shall direct — they also wish your Excellencies permission to inlist more men in s^{d} Society the officers elect are — Hobart Esterbrook Ju^{r} Capt Nathan Griffin L^{t} and Reed Anderson Ensign I presume your Excellencies orders will be cheerfully complied with — with the highest esteem I am your Excellencies most obedient and Humble Servant —

ELIPH^{T} HOLMES

His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Capt Genl
[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Esqr
Sharon Connt East Haddam Ct April 11th
[Endorsed] Capt. Esterbrook & Judge Holmes — 9 April 1817
de Millington company sent order as within requested. 19. April 1817

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SIMEON HUNTINGTON

[11:102]

SHARON 12. April 1817

Sir

Your letter containing a request to be discharged from military duty is received — You do not state whether you are an officer or a private in the militia — If you are an officer the recommendation of your colonel is necessary before a discharge is given — If you are a private and actually labour under the bodily disability you mention there can be no need of a discharge — Your captain will not surely report you as delinquent — and if he should the board of field officers on full proof of your infirmity will not subject you to fines —

I am Sir your ob. sert

Mr SIMEON HUNTINGTON —

WILLIAM CLARK AND OTHERS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:103]

To his Excy John Cotton Smith Esq, Capn Genl & Commander in Cheif of the Militia of the State of Connecticut — The Undersigned humbly represent that by a Petn dated Haddam May 14th AD 1816 they requested yr Excy to be established as a Volunteer Lt Infy Co with such Priveleges & under such Regulations as yr Excy might deem consistent with existing Arrangements, that in Pursuance of sd Application An Order dated Saybrook July 11th AD 1816 & signed by the Adjt Genl was

issued to John Brainerd Esqr Lt Col^{n} Comm^{d} of the 7th Reg^{t} directing him to lead the Subscribers of s^{d} Pet^{n} to a Choice of officers with which

[bottom half of page missing]

disposed to enlist to form a Volunteer Lt Inf^{y} Company before a Choice of Officers would be made & that by s^{d} order from the adj^{t} Genl their intentions appear to have been misapprehended & their Object in framing s^{d} Pet^{n} has been defeated, that a Number of the Subscribers to s^{d} Pet^{n} though warned did not attend at the Time of making Choice of s^{d} Officers because no Enlistment was made as they expected & that

[bottom half of page missing]

Enlistment of Men to constitute a Volunteer Comp^{y} & that when s^{d} Enlistment shall amount to a certain Number to be specified in s^{d} Order s^{d} Persons so enlisted shall be led to a Choice of Officers by the Lieut^{t} Col^{n} Comm^{t} of the 7th Reg^{t}
HADDAM Jany 27th AD 1817 —

WILLIAM CLARK

DAVID BONFOEY
HEZEKIAH KNOWLES
EZRA BRAINERD
SYLVESTER SCOVIL

[bottom half of page missing]

[Endorsed] Petition from individuals in Haddam — Lt. Infantry — Presented by Mr Jos^{h} Scofield — 10. April 1817 notice to be given the Captain —

CERTIFICATE OF ISRAEL GRAVES

[11:104]

April the 15 AD 1817

This is to certify that I have examined into the complaints of Mr Charles F Potter and find that he is Attended with defective vision and hearing and has brought Abundance of testimony

from his neighbors and friends to prove the same and I am of Opinion that he had ought to be Exempted from Military duty for the future

ISRAEL GRAVES Surg 15th Regiment

All Whom it May Concern

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO SIMEON HUNTINGTON

[11:105]

SHARON 12. April 1817

Sir

I wrote you on the 8th March in answer to your letter of the 3rd of that month. The petition you then alluded to was presented on the 10th instant. It has twenty one signatures — with its contents you are undoubtedly well acquainted. The substance of the representation is that the petitioners were deceived in the organization of the 2nd flank comp. 7th regiment — they did not suppose that by barely signing the original petition for a flank company, they were of course to be considered as members of that company, but that proper enlisting orders would have been given to which they might subscribe — and that in consequence of this impression several of them did not attend the choice of officers — they therefore pray that the proceedings may be annulled & orders issued for an enlistment & a new choice of officers —

I informed Mr Scofield who delivered me the petition & who appeared to treat the affair with much candor that I would write you on the subject by the first mail — and should wait your answer — I gave him at the same time to understand that the company was formed agreeably to what I conceived to be the established usage — that if any individual however had signed the original application either from any misrepresentation made to him or fraud practiced upon him, he might be relieved as any other soldier would be who had been deceived into an enlistment & the remedy in such case would be to return him to the battalion company within whose limits he resided — Mr

Scofield assented to all this, and seemed to think there were not more than five or six who pretended to have acted under erroneous impressions, and that if these were permitted to leave the company tranquility would probably be restored — He further stated that some complained of the expensiveness of the uniform which had been proposed — I observed to him that the company had not yet applied to me for the establishment of their uniform & that I should certainly recommend to them to avoid an *expensive dress* if they hoped or expected to obtain future enlistments — this being in my opinion the point on which flank companies have heretofore failed more than on any other —

I shall be gratified Sir to hear from you at as early a day as may be convenient — I trust you fell the importance of healing the division which appears to subsist in the company by means the most prudent & conciliatory — and I flatter myself an object so desirable will be accomplished —

Whilst Mr Scofield was here I discovered to my great surprise that the original order issued by the Adjutant General for the choice of officers is now amongst my papers — The mistake has originated from causes which I doubt not admit of a very satisfactory explanation — I apprehend therefore there will be no difficulty in obtaining the commissions at the next session — The captain general for the time being will lay the order and return before the legislature and the commissions whenever issued will confer rank from the date of the order —

I am Sir respectfully your
ob^t^ Ser^t^

Captain S. Huntington

N.B. I would remark that as it is believed the General orders heretofore issued regarding the uniform do not extend to newly raised flank companies, their dress will be established by a special order — I have thus far consulted the wishes of each company, but have also earnestly advised them to request a uniform that will not be oppressive to men in moderate circumstances.

[Endorsed] To Capt. S. Huntington of Haddam 12. April 1817

SILAS ST. JOHN TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:106]

To his Excellency John Cotton Smith Esq Governor And Commander in Chief In and over the State of Connecticut

Sir being Almost Arrived to the age of forty five years And Having done Military from the age of Sixteen years to the present time And Now Holding A Commission as Captain in the fifth Company And Second Reg^{t} of light Artillery in the State of Connecticut Having Incurred Considerable Expence which under my Present Circumstances is become burdonesome labouring under some infirmities of body I Do hereby Request Your Excellency to take the Above into Consideration And Grant Relief if Consistent by Dischargeing me Your Petitioner from holding an office As Above Stated as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray

Dated at SHARON April 14th 1817

SILAS S^{T} JOHN Capt

5th Com^{p} 2nd Reg^{t} Light Aty

[Endorsed] Capt. Silas St John's Resignation — 14th April 1817

Accepted discharge from office — order issued 14. April 1817

CHARLES F. POTTER TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:107]

NEW MILFORD April 15th 1817

Sir, in conformity with your request I have this day made application to, and have obtained a Certificate from the present Surgeon of the Regt. which I inclose and forward to your Excel", and sir you will greatly oblige your humble servant if you will return me a discharge from military Duty, by the Mail to New Milford P^{o} Office — — — — —

CHARLES F POTTER

His Excel" Gov" SMITH

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Conn. New Milford C^{t} Ap^{l} 21st

[Endorsed] Charles F. Potter's request for a discharge Rec^{d}

22nd April — Discharged on same date — Sent it in the mail to N. Milford by Saturday mail

DANIEL PHELPS, JR. TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:108]

Sir by a Late Law the Capt Genereal is authorised to discharge Commissioned & Staff Officers & Serjeants, Serj Daniel Murray having done Military duty for about 15 or 16 Years wishes for a discharge

Serj Murray became a subject of Military duty about the Year 1801 he continued to do duty in the 3d Comp 25 Regt as a private Soldier until Sept 1807 he was then appointed 4th Corporal in sd Company in May 1809 he was appointed 4th Serj & continued in that Office about 2 Years; He then removed within the Limits of the 7th Comp 17 Regt where he was enrolled & performed duty as a private Soldier — — after which he was appointed a Corporal in sd 7th Comp and Continued in that Comp about one Year. In the Spring of 1812 he removed back into the Limits of the 3d Comp and was enrolled [torn] [a]s a private Soldier (his place as an Officer [torn] Comp being filled) In Sept fo[llow]ing he was reappointed 4th Corp in the Comp — — and Continued to do the duty of a Corp until May 1814 when he was chosen 4th Serj and remained in that office gradually rising by degrees till about the year 1815 he became the orderly serjean in the Comp. In the reorganization of the Militia in 1816 part of the 5th Co. 14 Regt was annexed to the 3d Comp which brought 2 Serj making 6 Serjts in sd 3d Comp One of those Serjt's warrant outranked Serj Murrays warrant which reduced him to the 2d Serjt, under all these discouragements he does not feel that ambition which a Man in that Station ought to feel I conversed with General Hurlbut upon the subject who is well acquainted with Serjt Murray & he thought that under the above embarrassments he Could not do himself any honor nor Justice to the Company. My Subaltern officers concurred in the above opinion I think I can say with propriety that he ought to be discharg'd from any farther service in the military Line & honorably discharged — —

It may seem strange to you that Serj Murray does not come himself but the reason is he has a Large stock of Cattle and no hay scarcely and he his oblige to be with them constantly

Now Sir if you think that you can give him a discharge and forward it by the first mail after the receipt of this directed to me I will hand it to him

Yours in haste
DANIEL PHELPS JR.
Com^{dt} 3^{d} Comp 21st Regt

JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq
Capt General
WINCHESTER April 24th 1817

[on back of letter in handwriting of John Cotton Smith]

SHARON 29. April 1817

Sir —

Your letter of the 24th inst. is received — according to your representation the case of Serjeant Murray is attended with circumstances somewhat peculiar — Previously to granting a discharge however either to a commissioned or a non commissioned officer the recommendation of the Colonel of the regiment is always expected — —

I am Sir your ob^{t} Sr^{t}
J.C.S.

Capt PHELPS
Copy
[Superscribed] JOHN COTTON SMITH Esq Sharon Winchester 25 April
[Endorsed] Capt. Danl Phelps J^{r} 24. April 1817 answ^{d} 29th intra —

HORATIO SMITH TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:109]

SHARON April 24th AD 1817

Honoured Sir, the multiplied reasons of my desiring a discharge from my office, are, many debilities & infirmities, many

inabilities which my experience has lately apprized me of, which render me unfit to do honor to the cause. In addition to this, my age has advanced me almost to the period of release, in which I have uniformly and almost unexceptionably attended on my duty as a soldier & officer. The pride and ambition I once indulged in the military business has mostly ceased. Add to this the number of young men who desire office, of aspiring & judicious minds better calculated to honor their officer & do good to their country than their unworthy predecessor These are my reasons Respected Sir, submitted to your consideration with all due deference by your

humble servant HORATIO SMITH

[Superscribed] To his Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esq Sharon
[Endorsed] Resignation of Horatio Smith 1 Lieut. 5. Co. 2. Reg^{t} L^{t}. Artillery — accepted order 26. April 1817

JOSEPH CAMP TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:110]

WETHERSFIELD 25th April 1817

Sir

Agreeable to the liberty, with which your Excellency was pleased to indulge us, I called a meeting of the company under my command, when we made choice of the following uniform. — —

The officers non-commissioned officers & privates to wear a black leather cap or helmet, the form of the crown resembling an inverted cone, of about seven inches in height; the crown of the cap to be trimmed by being surrounded with a band of red leather one inch & a half in width with a small frontispiece of white metal — — with a chain of white cord, to hang in form of a festoon on the front & back sides — — with two white tassels on the left side — — and red feather, to be worn in front, to rise six inches above the crown. — — The vests to be made of white woollen cassimere, with white metal buttons, trimed with black cord. — — The pantaloons to be made of blue

woollen cloth, trimed with silver lace on the fall & side seams. — — The stock for the neck to be black & made of leather. — — To wear bootees or half boots. — —

The coats of officers to be the same as those described in the General Orders of Feb. 17th & Dec. 31st 1812 excepting the skirts which are to be somewhat shorter & lined with red. — —

The non-commissioned officers & privates to wear coats similar to those described in the General Order of Feb. 17th 1812 excepting that *each* corner of the skirts is to be turned up with red. — — To wear a red worsted sash round the waist, the sash to be not less than six inches in width. — — The belts to be made of white webbing. — — —

The coats of musicians to be the same as is described in the General Order of Feb. 17th 1812. — — To wear a round black hat, with a black silk cockade on the left side of the crown. — — In other respects their dress is to be the same as is to be worn by the non-commissioned officers & privates. — — —

The expense of the uniform we have agreed to adopt will exceed, but little, I think, that worn by the battalion companies — — The cap will cost, with trimings $4.50. — — The lace to be worn on the pantaloons, is of a narrow kind, & can be bought for about 6 Cts. a Yd. — — The sashes to be worn by the non-commissioned officers & privates will cost probably about one dollar each. — — You wish me to state the period within which I think the uniform can conveniently be obtained — —I would therefore name the first day of September next. — — —

I am respectfully, Sir, your
obedient Servant
JOSEPH CAMP

His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH — —

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN C. SMITH Esq. — — Sharon — — Con.

[Endorsed] Capt. Jos. Camp's Report of a uniform for 2. flank co. 6th Regt — recd 2. May 1817 Issued order 3. May accepting the report & establishing the uniform — allowing till 1. Sept. next to procure it —

SELDEN HUNTINGTON TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:111]

HADDAM May 6th 1817

Hond Sir

Having been absent at the time of the arrival of Yr Excellencys letter relative to the petition of a part of the 2d Flk Comy 7th Regt & not returning untill within two days have not had an opportunity of replying untill now. I had offered to permit the disaffected Soldiers to be enrolled in the battalion comy if it was wished & I could have an equal number from the same company if they were disposed to enlist; but this appears not to be the thing they want. A new choice of Officers seems to be what is wished by the leaders of the petition & yet they signifyed to me that they did not wish to change their Commander. I have therefore no interest i[n] opposing their petition except what arises from an idea of the impropriety of the thing & a sense of the respect due to the feelings of my subordinate officers. The soldiers who omitted attending the meeting for choice officers on account of not being enlisted, have never made them selves known to me; but those who refuse duty are persons who were present & acted with the company untill it was organized. Respecting the uniform there has been no alteration from the dress before worn except procuring caps which cost $4.50 each, and the time from the companys being first embodied & voting to have caps untill the time of the review was so short as to preclude the opportunity of making application for the alteration in the head dress. As it was verry desirable to have the company appear in full uniform at the meeting of the battalion & as Your Excellencys temporary commission sanctioned an immediate equipment of the company & Officers I hope it will not be viewed as transcending what may be allowable in the case. No one of the company appears dissatisfyed with the procuring caps & the soldiers esteem it a more economical head dress than before worn. That the petition did not originate from a desire to benefit the company I believe your Excellency may be convinced if a more minute investigation of the circumstances is thought expedient.

Verry Respectfully Your Excellency Humble Servant
SELDEN HUNTINGTON

[Superscribed] His Excellency JOHN COTTON SMITH Hartford
[Endorsed] Selden Huntington 6. May 1817

JOHN R. BOLLES TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:112]

NEW LONDON May 30th 1817

Sir

In the month of April I enclosed to you ceartain papers relative to my discharge from military duty which papers were sent in compliance with the letter which I had the honour to receive from you and which was in answer to mine of a former date. In your letter you say "That on the receipt of certificate from Maj Gen Isham and Col Moore as to the truth of the facts" (contained in my first letter) you will send me a discharge. Will you therefore have the goodness to write me whether the certificates abovementioned have ever been received and if so have they been acted on and was my discharge ever granted as I have never heard of the receipt of my letter and as I have been warned again to do military duty I feel anxious to learn the result of my application

With sentiments of high respect I am
Your obedient and humble Servant

JOHN R BOLLES

P.S. If the discharge has not been granted will you be so good as to return the papers an early answer to this will oblige me Please to direct to New London

J R BOLLES

[Superscribed] Honble JOHN COTTON SMITH Sharon Connecticut
[Endorsed] John R. Bolles 30. May 1817 recd 6 June answd 7th

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO JOHN R. BOLLES

[11:113]

SHARON 7. June 1817

Sir

I have received your letter of the 30th ultimo, and agreeably to your request I now enclose the statement of Col. Moore relative to your application for a discharge from military duty —

By adverting to my letter of the 22nd March last you will perceive I therein observed that it is a standing regulation not to discharge a Sergeant *on the ground merely of his having been superceded* — that there might however be circumstances in your case entitling it to an exemption from the general rule — that as you had referred to Major Genl Isham I should be glad to receive from him a statement of the facts and his opinion — and that it would give me pleasure to afford you relief if it could be done with propriety —

I need only remark that on receiving the statement of Col. Moore I could not discover any ground to vary your case from many others in which discharges had been withheld —

I am Sir your obedt Sert

Mr BOLLES

CHESTER GRANNIS TO JOHN COTTON SMITH

[11:114]

SOUTHINGTON 9th June AD 1817

Sir

At the time I saw you at Newhaven you informed me that the organization of the Militia was not completed and that it would be necessary to issue an additional order for its completion and that it would be advisable that the rank of the two flank companies in the 14th regiment should be determined that the decision respecting them may be included in that order.

We had expected in the course of the winter past to have seen the order alluded to but having never seen it we have thought it probable that it has not been promulgated We wish for information on the subject so far as it has relation to us As the

unfavorable combinations of Episcopalianism with Democracy has deprived the Militia of your services as Capt. General for the ensuing year if our rank remains undetermined we must look to another personage for a decision — We wish you Sir to favor us with a letter giving us the desired information with an enclosure of all the papers which you have received from us In so doing you will confer on us an obligation and receive hereby our acknowledgements

With sentiments of high esteem I am Sir
Yours CHESTER GRANNIS

Honorable JOHN C. SMITH

[Superscribed] Hon. JOHN C. SMITH Sharon Southington June 10

[Endorsed] Mr Chester Grannis 9. June 1817 answd 21st —

JOHN COTTON SMITH TO CHESTER GRANNIS

[11:115]

SHARON 21. June 1817

Sir —

The last eastern mail brought me your letter of the 9th instant —

All the papers which came to my hands regarding the rank of the two flank companies in the 14th regiment were lodged with the Secretary of this state to be delivered over to my successor — — I intended to have referred the question to a disinterested board of officers — but a variety of other public engagements prevented me from accomplishing the object before my term of office expired — nor did it appear to me very important that the affair should be settled until some short time previous to the Autumnal reviews — — There is still ample time for that purpose and I can only add the expression of my sincere desire that the point may be adjusted satisfactorily to both parties —

I am Sir your obt &
humble servant

Mr GRANNIS —

INDEX

Abernethy, Brig. Gen. Russell C., letters by, 258, 268
Abernethy, Brig. Gen. Russell C., letter to, 262
Abernethy, Lieut. Col. Russell C., letter to, 75
Abernethy, Lieut. Col. [Russell C.], mentioned, 81, 161
Abington, 178, 294
Abington, Flank Co., choice of officers for, 260
Abington, Flank Co., order for formation of, 242
Accoutrements, described, 109
Ackley, Alvin, petition signed by, 166
Ackley, Plin, petition signed by, 166
Ackley, Thomas, petition signed by, 166
Adams, Abel, petition signed by, 108
Adams, Ambrose, petition signed by, 108
Adams, Eli, association signed by, 133
Adams, Eli, letter by, 281
Adams, Eli, mentioned, 146, 282
Adams, Lieut. Eli, mentioned, 146, 157
Adams, Ezra, Jr., remonstrance signed by, 106
Adams, Corp. John, mentioned, 177
Adams, William, petition signed by, 108
Akin, Robert, petition signed by, 284
Alteration, in Chatham militia co., proposed, 283
Alteration, in organization of Infantry, 276, 277, 278
Alterations, in Militia, 16th Regt., 259
American Atlas, 268
Anderson, Reed, petition signed by, 167
Anderson, Ens. Reed, mentioned, 298
Anderson, Robert, petition signed by, 165
Anderson, Thomas, Jr., representation signed by, 68
Anderson, Wells, petition signed by, 165
Andover, 277, 294
Andrews, Curtis, mentioned, 184
Andrews, Elijah, mentioned, 187
Andrews, James, mentioned, 185
Andrews, John D., mentioned, 184
Andrews, Joseph, mentioned, 187
Andre[w]s, Joseph, petition signed by, 19
Andrews, Obediah, association signed by, 133
Andrews, Selah, mentioned, 187
Andrews, Capt. [Timothy], mentioned, 216
Andrus, Eben, mentioned, 186
Applicants, roll of, to form Light Infantry Co., 6
Application, to form Flank Co. in Weston, 281
Application, to form Light Infantry Co., 6
Application, to form Light Infantry Co., granted, 13
Application, to form Rifle Co., 30
Arms and accoutrements, 128
Arms and accoutrements, for Rifle Corps, 275
Arnold, Ephraim, petition signed by, 166
Arnold, Ephraim, Jr., petition signed by, 166
Arnold, John, petition signed by, 284
Arnold, Rodney, petition signed by, 166
Arsenal, at Hartford, to hold all military stores, 214
Arsenal, at New London, 202
Arsenal, at New London, status of, 213, 214
Arsenals, to be under charge of Col. James Ward, 209
Artillery, purchase of from United States, proposed, 10
Ashford, 17
Ashford, Grenadier Co., requests transfer to 23rd Regt., 188
Ashford, Grenadier Co., transferred to 23rd Regt., 192
Ashford, letters dated at, 42, 66, 236
Ashford, petition dated at, 188
Association, for Rifle Co., in Griswold, 142

Association, for Rifle Co., in Weston, 132
Atkins, Sylvester, mentioned, 185
Atkins, Sylvester R., mentioned, 181
Atkins, Sylvester R., subscription signed by, 182
Atwater, Arnold, mentioned, 184
Atwater, Phineas, mentioned, 185
Atwater, Lieut. William C., letter by, requesting discharge, 256
Atwater, Lieut. William C., letter to, 264
Atwell, Capt. Jesse, mentioned, 20
Atwell, Capt. Jesse, petition signed by, 19
Averill, Stephen, mentioned, 178
Ayer, Sam[ue]l Hartshorn, mentioned, 178

Babcock, Lewis, mentioned, 178
Backus, Sylvanus, mentioned, 230, 242, 252, 295
Backus, Sylvanus, subscription addressed to, 177
Bacon, Captain, mentioned, 56
Bailey, Corp. Alfred, representation signed by, 56
Bailey, Eliphalet, petition signed by, 284
Bailey, Elisha, petition signed by, 125
Bail[e]y, Corp. Henry, mentioned, 6
Bailey, Hiram, petition signed by, 184
Bailey, Jabez, petition signed by, 19
Bailey, Nathaniel, petition signed by, 19
Bailey, Major Roger, letter by, 190
Baldwin, Lieut. Col. Benjamin, letter by, 71
Baldwin, Lieut. Col. Benjamin, letter to, 48
Baldwin, Lieut. Col. Benjamin, mentioned, 18, 171
Baldwin, Lieut. Col. Benjamin, representation to, 67
Baldwin, David, association signed by, 133
Baldwin, Ira, association signed by, 133
Baldwin, William, mentioned, 185
Bank of the United States, Hartford Branch, 217
Barber, Calvin, petition signed by, 108
Barber, Calvin, remonstrance signed by, 107
Barber, Lieut. Col. Calvin, letter by, 39
Barber, Norris B., certified unfit for military duty, 122
Barber, Norris B., recommended for discharge, 121
Barkhamsted, 21, 83, 84, 85, 99
Barkhamsted, petition dated at, 83
Barlow, Capt. [Darius], discharged, 149
Barlow, Capt. [Darius], recommended for discharge, 111
Barnard, Sergt. Judah P., certified unfit for military duty, 167
Barnard, Sergt. Judah P., letter by, requesting discharge, 175
Barns, Beebe, mentioned, 185
Barran, Thomas, petition signed by, 19
Barrett, William, 2d, mentioned, 186
Bartlet, Reuben, representation signed by, 69
Bartram, Major Gurdon, letter signed by, 139
Bartram, Major Gurdon, remonstrance signed by, 157
Bassett, Elisha, representation signed by, 68
Bassett, Nathan F., representation signed by, 68
Bassitt, W[illia]m, mentioned, 187
Bateman, Stephen C., petition signed by, 141
Bates, Ens. Barnabas, letter by, requesting discharge, 249
Bates, Ens. Barnabas, recommended for discharge, 250
Bates, Guernsey, petition signed by, 19
Bayonets, specifications for, 9
Beach, Major John, letter by, requesting discharge, 37
Beardslee, Benjamin, petition signed by, 125
Beardslee, Cyrus, association signed by, 133
Beardslee, Heman, petition signed by, 125

Beardslee, Jonathan, petition signed by, 125
Beardsley, Clark, petition signed by, 141
Beckwith, Barzilla, petition signed by, 166
Beckwith, Nathaniel B., petition signed by, 166
Beckwith, Sam[ue]l, Jr., petition signed by, 165
Bedlow, Joseph, mentioned, 188, 192
Bedlow, Joseph, petition signed by, 189
Beebe, Ambrose A., petition signed by, 167
Beebe, Ezra, petition signed by, 165
Beebe, Manley, petition signed by, 166
Beers, Benjamin, association signed by, 133
Beers, Burton H., association signed by, 133
Beers, Burton M., mentioned, 282
Beers, Lieut. John, mentioned, 58
Beers, Oliver, association signed by, 133
Beers, Oliver, mentioned, 282
Belden, Joel, mentioned, 187
Belden, Lieut. Jonathan, Jr., list signed by, 188
[Belden, Col. William], mentioned, 278
Belden, Lieut. Col. William, letter by, 138
Belden, Lieut. Col. William, letter to, 148
Belden, Lieut. Col. William, remonstrance signed by, 157
Bemus, Lymon, petition signed by, 19
Benedict, Major Ezra, remonstrance signed by, 158
Benedict, Noah B., letter by, 288
Benjamin, John E., mentioned, 185
Bennet, Jared, mentioned, 178
Bennet, Jonathan, mentioned, 177
Bennet, William, mentioned, 177
Bennett, [Lieut.] Eli B., may be discharged, 115
Bennett, Lieut. Eli B., requests discharge, 88, 89
Bennitt, Daniel F., petition signed by, 125
Bennitt, John, association signed by, 133
Benson, Jabez, mentioned, 177
Berlin, 20, 162, 180, 181, 182, 183, 186, 188
Berlin, list of persons doing military duty in, 186
Bestor, John, remonstrance signed by, 107
Bestor, Dr. John, certificate by, 167
Bethlem, 21
Betts, Lieut. Ira, remonstrance signed by, 158
Bidwell, Sergt. Daniel, representation signed by, 56
Bigelow, Gilbert, mentioned, 6
Bird, Brig. Gen. David, letter to, 146
Bird, Brig. Gen. [David], mentioned, 95, 117
Bird, Brig. Gen. David, petition signed by, 141
Birge, Backus W., letter by, requesting remittance of fines, 189
Bishop, Amos, representation signed by, 68
Bishop, Charles, representation signed by, 68
Bishop, John, representation signed by, 68
Bishop, Lius, representation signed by, 69
Bishop, Major Timothy, letter by, 77
Bishop, Major Timothy, letter by, requesting discharge, 168
[Bishop, Major Timothy], mentioned, 264
Blair, Virgil S., mentioned, 185
Blakesley, Laban, Jr., mentioned, 185
Blakesley, Martin, mentioned, 185
Blinn, Elias, mentioned, 187
Bliss, Aaron, petition signed by, 284
Bo[a]rdman, Thomas C., petition signed by, 166
Boardman, William B., petition signed by, 166
Boll[e]s, Epraphas, mentioned, 6
Bolles, Sergt. John R., letter by, concerning discharge, 309
Bolles, Sergt. John R., letters by, requesting discharge, 271, 291
Bolles, Sergt. John R., letters to, 276, 310
Boll[e]s, Justus, mentioned, 6

Bonfoey, David, letter signed by, 300
Booth, Cyrus, mentioned, 181, 184, 187
Booth, Truman, petition signed by, 125
Boult, George, petition signed by, 141
Bound, Capt. John, letter by, 197
Bound, Capt. John, mentioned, 204
Bound, Capt. John, note to, 205
Bowers, Sam[ue]l, petition signed by, 284
Bowers, Samuel, Jr., petition signed by, 284
Bracket, Alpheus S., mentioned, 185
Brackett, Ramsel, mentioned, 185
Bradley, Cyrus, representation signed by, 69
Bradley, Justus, petition signed by, 284
Bradley, Uri, association signed by, 133
Brainerd, Ezra, letter signed by, 300
Brainerd, Jared, petition signed by, 166
Brainerd, Col. John, 2d, mentioned, 300
Brainerd, Col. John, 2d, recommendation by, 250
Brainerd, Lieut. Col. John, 2d, letter by, 31
Brainerd, Lieut. Col. John, 2d, mentioned, 76
Branford, 7, 12, 17, 18
Branford, letter dated at, 3
Bray, Capt. Amaziah, letter by, recommending discharge, 65
Bray, Capt. Amaziah, mentioned, 64
Brewster, Simon, petition signed by, 101
Bridgeport, 36, 282
Bridgeport, letters dated at, 59, 88, 266, 285
Brinsmade, Col. Daniel B., letter by, 191
Brinsmade, Col. [Daniel B.], mentioned, 288
Bristol, 20
Brockett, Capt. [Jesse], mentioned, 221
Brockett, Capt. [Jesse], requests discharge, 216
Bronson, Cyprian, mentioned, 187
Brookfield, 21
Brooks, Governor [John], mentioned, 205
Brown, Henry, mentioned, 177, 187
Brown, Horace, mentioned, 7
Brown, Samuel, mentioned, 6
Brown, Samuel, petition signed by, 284
Brownal lot, [Vermont], 49
Buck, Chauncy, mentioned, 185
Buck, Erastus, petition signed by, 284
Buck, Samuel, 2d, petition signed by, 284
Buckly, Doctor, mentioned, 142
Buel, Capt. [Samuel, 2d], mentioned, 47, 48
Buel, Dr. Sam[ue]l, certificate signed by, 122
Buell, Sergt. Jedediah, discharge recommended, 64, 65
Buell, Sergt. Jedediah, letter by, requesting discharge, 64
Bulkeley, Lieut. Col. Joshua, 2d, letter by, recommending discharge, 163
Bulkeley, Lieut. Col. Joshua, 2d, mentioned, 24
Bulkeley, Sylvester, letter by, recommending discharge, 90
Bull, Major Isaac D., discharged, 204
Bull, Major Isaac D., letter by, requesting discharge, 198
Bull, Major Isaac D., letters to, 194, 203
Bull, Major [Isaac D.], mentioned, 170
Bullard, Zuingliers, Jr., mentioned, 188, 192
Bullard, Zuingliers, Jr., petition signed by, 189
Bump, Allen, petition signed by, 166
Bunce, John, mentioned, 181, 187
Bunnel, John, mentioned, 181, 184, 185
Bunnel, John, subscription signed by, 182
Burdick, Russell, mentioned, 6
Burdick, Shepherd, petition signed by, 165
Burk, Eliphalet, letter signed by, 45
Burk, Thomas, petition signed by, 166

Burke, Lyman, petition signed by, 166
Burlington, 20
Burlington, letter dated at, 49
Burr, Col. Gershom, mentioned, 139, 288
Burritt, Lieut. Col. [Daniel], mentioned, 288
Burritt, Eben, letter signed by, 131
Burton, Cyrus W., association signed by, 133
Burton, Cyrus W., mentioned, 282
Bush, Jira, representation signed by, 68
Bushnell, Nathan, representation signed by, 68
Butler, Horace, mentioned, 186
Butler, Jeremiah, petition signed by, 20
Butler, John, petition signed by, 19
Butler, Lyman, petition signed by, 19
Butler, Solo[mon], mentioned, 187
Byington, Chittenden, mentioned, 185
Byington, Sergt. Theodore, mentioned, 184
Byington, Zebulon, mentioned, 181
Byington, Zebulon, subscription signed by, 180

Cady, Festus, mentioned, 7
Caldwell, Benj[amin], mentioned, 187
Calkins, Ja[me]s N., mentioned, 209
Camp, Denis, petition signed by, 19
Camp, Elias, 2d, petition signed by, 19
Camp, Ens. Fairchild, representation signed by, 56
Camp, Ichabod, petition signed by, 19
Camp, Capt. Joseph, letter to, 130
Camp, Capt. Joseph, letters by, 116, 306
Camp, Joseph P., petition signed by, 19
Camp, Manoah, petition signed by, 19
Canaan, 21
Candee, Capt. Horace, letter by, 119
Candee, Capt. Horace, letter to, 129
Canfield, Asher, petition signed by, 19
Canterbury, 41, 50, 161, 189, 248, 261, 262, 277
Canterbury, letter dated at, 40
Canterbury, Light Infantry Co., 262
Canterbury, militia companies in, 40, 41
Canton, 21, 36, 60
Canton, letters dated at, 26, 40, 69, 102
Capps, Chester, mentioned, 185
Caps, for Haddam Flank Co., cost of, 308
Caps, for New Haven Light Infantry Co., described, 253
Caps, military, described, 222, 223
[Carr, Capt. Daniel], mentioned, 174
Carter, Ezra, mentioned, 181, 184, 187
Carter, Dr. Samuel, recommended for discharge, 31
Cashier, request for appointment as, 217
Castle, Harry W., petition signed by, 125
Catlin, Dr. Abel, certificate signed by, 122
Catlin, Dr. Samuel, letter by, requesting discharge, 75
Certificates, concerning Ashford Grenadier Co., 189
Certificates, concerning muster rolls of 24th Regt., 171, 172, 173
Certificates, concerning Norris B. Barber, 122
Certificates, of disability, 28, 64, 167, 300
Certification, concerning location of Barkhamsted militia co., 85
Certification, for discharge, 93
Chadwick, James, petition signed by, 166
Chadwick, Silas, Jr., petition signed by, 166
Chalker, Benjamin, petition signed by, 19
Chalker, Jabez, petition signed by, 19
Chalker, Jeremiah, petition signed by, 19
Chamberlain, Asa, petition signed by, 20
Chamberl[a]in, Benj[amin], petition signed by, 166
Chamberlain, Calvin, mentioned, 178

Chamberlain, Merrick, mentioned, 177
Chandler, Erastus, mentioned, 177
Channing, Rev. Henry, mentioned, 202, 207, 212, 213, 214
Chapel, Nathan, petition signed by, 166
Chapman, Abner, petition signed by, 165
Chapman, Elijah, petition signed by, 165
Chapman, Ira, petition signed by, 284
Chapman, Silvester, mentioned, 176
Chase, Seth, 2d, mentioned, 177
Chatfield, Ens. Divine, letter signed by, 120
Chatham, 1, 2, 16, 24, 32, 38, 52, 110, 161, 274, 283, 285
Chatham, letter dated at, 226
Chatham, militia co., alteration in, proposed, 283
Chatham, petition dated at, 283
Chatham, petition from, 283
Chauncey, Nath[an] W., petition signed by, 19
Chauncey, [Mr.] W. G., petition signed by, 19
Cheshire, 24, 29
Chester, [Stephen], Sheriff, mentioned, 240
Chester, 18, 37
Child, Lieut. Chauncy, mentioned, 92
Chittenden, Capt. John B., letters by, 7, 65
Chittenden, Capt. John B., letters to, 11, 73
Chittenden, Josiah C., representation signed by, 68
Church, Daniel F., petition signed by, 166
Church, Diodate A., petition signed by, 166
Church, Jere[mia]h E., mentioned, 178
Churchill, David D., petition signed by, 284
Churchill, Solo[mon], Jr., mentioned, 187
Circular, form for, suggested, 243
Circular, suggestions concerning, 244, 245
Clark, Mr., requests discharge, 96
Clark, Alvin, mentioned, 181, 185
Clark, Alvin, subscription signed by, 183
Clark, Sergt. Amos, mentioned, 6
Clark, Aroma, mentioned, 185
Clark, Chauncey, mentioned, 187
Clark, David, 2d, mentioned, 6
Clark, Sergt. Elijah, mentioned, 6
Clark, Harry, mentioned, 6
Clark, Ira, petition signed by, 108
Clark, John, mentioned, 186
Clark, Lieut. Noah, discharge granted, 147
Clark, Lieut. Noah, recommended for discharge, 142
Clark, Peleg R., petition signed by, 284
Clark, Lieut. Thomas N., discharge granted, 135
Clark, Lieut. Thomas N., letter to, 135
Clark, Lieut. Thomas N., recommended for discharge, 117
Clark, Warner B., mentioned, 182, 184
Clark, William, letter by, 299
Clarke, Ebenezer, petition signed by, 101
Clarke, James, petition signed by, 165
Coe, Lieut. Bela, representation signed by, 56
Coe, Charles, petition signed by, 19
Coe, Sergt. Curtis, representation signed by, 56
Coe, Darius, representation signed by, 68
Coe, Heman, representation signed by, 68
Coe, Justin, representation signed by, 68
Coe, Sergt. Levi, representation signed by, 56
Coe, Corp. Linus, representation signed by, 56
Coe, Timothy, petition signed by, 19
Coe, W[illia]m, representation signed by, 68
Cog[s]well, Jesse, mentioned, 186
Cogswell, Levi B., mentioned, 185
Colchester, 24, 47, 71, 163, 239, 274
Colchester, letters dated at, 31, 71, 90, 163, 240
Cole, Ozias, mentioned, 6
Colebrook, 21, 84, 94, 95

Coles, Capt. [Elisha A.], mentioned, 47
Colt, Elisha, Comptroller, letter by, 218
Colt, Elisha, Comptroller, letters to, 213, 215
[Colt, Elisha], Comptroller, mentioned, 207, 213
Commissions, for Haddam Flank Co., 257
Complaint, against Charles Lewis, for theft, 237
Comstock, Col. [Asa, Jr.], mentioned, 235
Cone, Charles, petition signed by, 166
Cone, Erastus, petition signed by, 165
Cone, Helon, petition signed by, 165
Cone, Israel, Jr., petition signed by, 167
Cone, Joseph W., petition signed by, 166
Cone, Newel, petition signed by, 166
Cone, Sam[ue]l, petition signed by, 165
Cone, Sam[ue]l W., petition signed by, 165
Cone, William, petition signed by, 165
Cone, William, 2d, petition signed by, 166
Confirmation, of military rank, 140
Conklin, Jehiel M., representation signed by, 68
Conklin, Samuel P., representation signed by, 68
Connecticut, 215
Connecticut, claims of, against United States, 218, 219
Connecticut, map of, 268
Connecticut Asylum for the Education & Instruction of Deaf & Dumb Persons, Hartford, 80, 112
[*Connecticut Courant*], newspaper, 81
[*Connecticut Mirror*], newspaper, 81
Connecticut River, 31, 176, 257
Cook, Capt. Billious, complaint against, 29
Cook, Capt. Billious, mentioned, 29
Cook, Robert, mentioned, 185
Cook, Roswell, mentioned, 185
Cook, Lieut. Selden, letter by, requesting discharge, 226
Cook, Lieut. Selden, letter to, 17
Cook, Lieut. Selden, mentioned, 5
Cook & Hale, booksellers, 243
Cooke, [Oliver D.], letter to, 243
Cooper, David, petition signed by, 284
Cooper, Guy, petition signed by, 284
Cooper, Thomas, Jr., petition signed by, 284
Corning, Samuel L., association signed by, 133
Corning, W[illia]m, association signed by, 133
Cornish, Lieut. Asa, remonstrance signed by, 106
Cornish, Capt. James, remonstrance signed by, 106
Cornish, Joseph, letter signed by, 45
Cornwall, David, mentioned, 285
Cornwall, David, petition signed by, 284
Cornwall, 21
Cornwell, Ralph S., mentioned, 181, 183
Cornwell, Timothy, petition signed by, 284
Cornwell, W[illia]m, petition signed by, 307
Cost, of caps, for Haddam Flank Co., 308
Cost, of uniform, for Wethersfield Flank Co., 307
Couch, Sergt. Edward, certificate by, 173
Courtmartial, 208
Courtmartial, records of, 196
Courtmartial, sentence of, approved, 170, 171
Covell, Elisha, petition signed by, 284
Coventry, 48, 161, 274, 297
Coventry, letter dated at, 131
Coventry, militia co., election of officers in, requested, 131
Cowdry, Loren, mentioned, 6
Cowles, Capt. Amasa, Jr., certification by, 85
Cowles, George W., mentioned, 185
Cowles, Jonathan S., mentioned, 181, 185
Cowles, Jonathan S., subscription signed by, 180

Cowles, [Maj. Gen. Solomon], mentioned, 90
Cowles, William, mentioned, 181
Cowles, William, Drummer, subscription signed by, 180
Coy, Sam[ue]l O., mentioned, 187
Crampton, Darius, representation signed by, 69
Crampton, Jesse, 2d, representation signed by, 69
Crampton, Ralph S., representation signed by, 68
Criminal Code, revision of, 154
Crissey, James, mentioned, 182, 185
Crissey, James, subscription signed by, 183
Cromwell, Chauncey, mentioned, 187
Cromwell, George, mentioned, 187
Crowell, Capt. Samuel, discharged, 75
Curtis, Carlos, mentioned, 186
Curtis, Capt. Carlos G., letter to, 76
Curtis, Capt. Carlos G., letters by, 58, 74
Curtis, Dan[ie]l S., mentioned, 187
Curtis, Seth, mentioned, 181, 185
Curtis, Seth, subscription signed by, 180
Curtiss, Sergt. Eli, petition signed by, 125
Curtiss, Erastus, mentioned, 185
Curtiss, Japhet, petition signed by, 141

Daggett, [David], mentioned, 215, 218
Dana, [Samuel W.], mentioned, 10, 109, 129, 218, 219
Danbury, 21, 22
Daniels, Tarrines M., petition signed by, 101
Darling, John, letter by, 58
Darling, John, letter to, 73
Darling, Joseph S., Adjt., letter signed by, 139
Darling, Joseph S., Adjt., remonstrance signed by, 158
Darling, Capt. [Joseph S.], mentioned, 173
Darrow, Asa, mentioned, 185
Dart, Benjamin, petition signed by, 284
Darvin, Zenas, mentioned, 186
Dauchy, Capt. David, certificate by, 172
Davenport, John, letter by, 210
Davenport, [John], mentioned, 215, 219
Davis, [Rev. Henry], mentioned, 286
Davis, Isaac, complaint signed by, 237
Davis, James, mentioned, 177
Davis, Joseph, mentioned, 186
Davis, Peter, petition signed by, 19
Day, Thomas, Secretary of the State, letter to, 202
Day, Thomas, Secretary of the State, letters by, 198, 207, 239
[Day, Thomas, Secretary of the State], mentioned, 209, 214, 215, 218, 252, 311
Dean, Oliver, petition signed by, 284
Deming, Brig. Gen. David, letters by, 31, 71, 90, 240
Deming, Brig. Gen. David, letters to, 53, 77, 115
Deming, Brig. Gen. [David], mentioned, 5, 16, 17, 20, 43, 52, 64, 81, 111, 142, 158, 173, 216, 225, 243, 245
Deming, Col. [Brig. Gen.] David, mentioned, 206
Denison, Abel, petition signed by, 165
Denison, Asa W., petition signed by, 165
Denison, Charles, mentioned, 295
Denison, Ezekiel, representation signed by, 68
[Dennis, Capt. Henry], mentioned, 211
Derby, letter dated at, 120
Dexter, Jason, mentioned, 185
Dickenson, Lemuel, petition signed by, 166
Dickenson, Oliver, petition signed by, 166
Dickenson, Simeon, petition signed by, 166
Dikeman, Capt. Joseph, certificate by, 172
Discharge, basis for, 299
Discharge, not granted, 114
Discharge, order for, 41
Discharge, recommendations for, 31, 39, 40, 65, 96, 108, 111, 117, 121, 142, 155, 163, 167, 288, 304
Discharge, regulations concerning, 127

Discharge, request concerning, 309
Discharge, request for, denied, 264
Discharge, requests for, 3, 27, 37, 46, 57, 64, 70, 76, 88, 89, 91, 93, 96, 97, 98, 101, 132, 168, 175, 176, 199, 216, 226, 249, 256, 271, 291, 303, 304, 305
Discharge, withheld, 310
Discharges, general orders concerning, 92, 93
Discharges, granted, 75, 112, 113, 114, 115, 147, 149, 203, 204, 289
Discharges, questions concerning, 104
Discharges, rules concerning, 221
Discharges, rules for granting, desired, 216
Dismission, granted, 135
Doolittle, Abram, mentioned, 181, 185
Doolittle, Abram, subscription signed by, 180
Doolittle, Lieut. Jared, mentioned, 78, 169
Dorman, Merritt, fines against, appealed, 58
Doud, Galen, representation signed by, 68
Doud, Garner, representation signed by, 68
Douglass, Amzi, mentioned, 185
Dowd, Heman, representation signed by, 68
Dowd, Joshua, representation signed by, 68
Dowd, Lyman, representation signed by, 68
Dowd, Timothy, 2d, representation signed by, 69
Dowd, Wyllys W., representation signed by, 69
Dowel, Charles A., representation signed by, 69
Draft, of Governor's 1816 message to General Assembly, 151
Dudley, Ambrose, representation signed by, 69
Dudley, Phinehas, representation signed by, 68
Dudley, Timothy, representation signed by, 68
Dudley, Capt. W[illia]m, letter signed by, 139
Dudley, Capt. [William], mentioned, 173
Dudley, Capt. William, remonstrance signed by, 158
Durham, 1, 7, 12, 18, 19, 20, 35, 48, 49, 72, 81, 82, 93, 275
Durham, letter dated at, 103
Durham, petition from, 17
Dutton, Allen, mentioned, 182, 186
Dutton, Allen, subscription signed by, 183
Dutton, Russel, petition signed by, 165
Dwight, [Timothy], death of, 232
Dyer farm, [Vermont], 49, 60

East Guilford, 17, 18, 35, 82
East Guilford, militia co., opposes relocation, 72
East Guilford, militia co., wishes to remain in 27th Regt., 67
East Guilford, representation dated at, 67
East Haddam, 71, 163, 176, 196, 220, 226, 236, 278
East Haddam, letters dated at, 176, 209, 297
East Haddam, petition dated at, 163
East Haddam, petition from to form militia co., 163
East Hartford, 20
East Windsor, 20, 48, 274
Easterbrooks, Marcus, mentioned, 177
Eaton, Captain, mentioned, 48
Eaton, Joseph, letter by, 196
Eaton, Joseph, letter by, concerning courtmartial, 208
Eddy, Mr., mentioned, 267, 268
Eddy, Joseph, mentioned, 181, 183, 187
Eddy, Seth, petition signed by, 284
Eddy, William, mentioned, 181, 183, 187
Edmonds, William, mentioned, 178
Edwards, [Mr.], *Works,* 244
Edwards, Capt. Levi, mentioned, 47, 156, 157
Edwards, Timothy M., petition signed by, 284
Election of 1816, results in Conn., 209
Election sermon, agreement to preach, 201
Election to Congress, writ of, 295
Electors, appointment of, 198, 203
Ellsworth, Capt. Giles, letter to, confirming military rank, 139

Ellsworth, W[illia]m W[olcott], letter to, 112
Ely, Benjamin, petition signed by, 108
Ely, Benjamin, remonstrance signed by, 107
Emmons, Augustine, petition signed by, 167
Emmons, Jonathan L., petition signed by, 166
Emmons, Noadiah, petition signed by, 167
Emons, Samuel, petition signed by, 165
Enfield, 70
Enlistment, permit for, requested, 26
Enlistment, questions concerning, 116
Enlistment orders, request for, 195
Enlistments, in Horse Artillery, 274
Eno, Isaac, petition signed by, 108
Eno, Joel, Jr., petition signed by, 108
Equipment, for Rifle Corps, 263
Estabrook, Hobart, Jr., petition signed by, 166
Estabrook, Capt. Hobart, Jr., letter by, 297
Estabrook, Capt. Hobart, Jr., mentioned, 298
Evans, Benoni, mentioned, 185
Extradition, from New York State, 251, 252

Fairfield, 21
Fanton, Sergt. Sturges, certificate by, 172
Farmington, 20, 36
Farmington River, 84
Farnham, Lavinus, mentioned, 158
Field, Johnson, representation signed by, 69
Field, Tho[ma]s, mentioned, 177
Field, Zub., Jr., representation signed by, 69
Field piece, for Griswold Artillery Co., 211, 212
Filley, Capt. Oliver, mentioned, 39, 43
Filley, Capt. Oliver, recommended for discharge, 39, 40
Finch, Newman, mentioned, 185
Fines, appeal for remission of, 170
Fines, for neglect of military duty, 86, 87, 136
Fines, for non-appearance, remitted, 189
Fish, Elias, mentioned, 177
Fisher, Aaron, mentioned, 178
Fitts, Duty, mentioned, 188, 192
Fitts, Duty, petition signed by, 189
Flagg, Jos[eph] W., mentioned, 187
Flank Co., in Abington, order for formation, 242
Flank Co., in Pomfret, approved, 241
Flank Co., in Pomfret, desired, 231
Flank companies, establishment and location of, 193, 259
Flank companies, request for enlistment orders, 195
Floyd, James, petition signed by, 284
Foot, Dr. Anson, copy of letter by, 4
Foot, Dr. Anson, copy of letter to, 3
Foot Guards, choice of officers in, 194
Foot Guards, promotions in, 194, 195
Foot Guards, 1st Co., 189, 198, 204
Foot Guards, 2d Co., 78, 256, 264
Foot Guards, 2d Co., new officers to be chosen, 168, 169
Foote, Brig. Gen. Enoch, letters by, 88, 266, 285
Foote, Brig. Gen. Enoch, letters to, 114, 275, 292
Foote, Brig. Gen. [Enoch], mentioned, 278, 279, 287, 288, 294
Fowler, Reuben F., representation signed by, 68
Fox, A[a]ron, petition signed by, 166
Fox, Charles L., petition signed by, 166
Fox, Ezekiel, petition signed by, 166
Fox, Pliny L., mentioned, 177
Fox, Capt. [Samuel H.], mentioned, 47
Fox, Corp. William B., mentioned, 177
Freeman, Caleb, petition signed by, 101
Francis, Jos[eph], Jr., mentioned, 187

Francis, Romeo, mentioned, 181, 182, 183
Franses, Friend W., petition signed by, 19
Fraser, Warren, mentioned, 187
French, Lieut. Col. William, petition signed by, 141
Frisbie, Ransom, mentioned, 185
Frost, Levi B., mentioned, 185
Fuller, Calvin, mentioned, 6
Fuller, Chauncy, petition signed by, 165
Fuller, Capt. Harvey, certificate by, 189
Fuller, John, mentioned, 158
Fuller, Joseph W., petition signed by, 125
Fuller, Samuel A., petition signed by, 166

Gallaudet, Rev. I., mentioned, 80
Gallup, Gardiner, petition signed by, 165
Gallup, Gardiner, Jr., petition signed by, 165
Gallup, Joseph, petition signed by, 165
Gates, Bri, petition signed by, 166
Gates, Daniel, petition signed by, 165
Gates, Oren, petition signed by, 165
Gates, Warren, mentioned, 7
General Assembly, 40, 51, 77, 90, 92, 116, 145, 150, 152, 154, 156, 177, 190, 192, 194, 199, 203, 204, 214, 229, 254, 261, 265, 272, 273, 276, 292, 295
General Assembly, copy of act of, for forming and conducting military force, 241
General Assembly, copy of resolve of, concerning militia officers, 197
General Assembly, draft of Governor's message to, 151
General Assembly, letter to, 151
General Assembly, remonstrance addressed to, 156
General Assembly, resolve of, concerning Flank companies, 155
General Orders, 272
General Orders, concerning composition of Rifle Corps, 274
General Orders, concerning courtmartial of Ens. Ansel Southworth, 170
General Orders, concerning discharges, 92
General Orders, concerning reorganization of militia, 95
General Orders, for alteration in organization of Infantry, 276
General Orders, mentioned, 127
General Orders, questions concerning, 104
General Orders, request for, 26
General Orders, to be issued, 99
General Orders, transferring Ashford Grenadier Co., 192
Gibbon, Edward, *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire,* 244
Gilbert, Asa, Jr., mentioned, 99
Gilbert, Asa, Jr., petition signed by, 83
Gilbert, Erastus, mentioned, 99
Gilbert, Erastus, petition signed by, 83
Gilbert, Linus, mentioned, 187
Gilbert, Raphael, mentioned, 187
Gillet, David, Jr., petition signed by, 125
Gillett, Daniel, petition signed by, 125
Gillum, George, petition signed by, 284
Gladdin, Reuben, mentioned, 187
Glastonbury, 20
Gleason, Elisha, note signed by, 237
Gleason, Col. Peter B., letter to, 14
Gleason, Col. Peter B., letters by, 2, 108
Gleason, Col. [Peter B.], mentioned, 17
Goddard, Major Hezekiah, Paymaster Gen., copy of letter by, 213
Goddard, Major Hezekiah, Paymaster Gen., letters to, 202, 212
Goddard, Major H[ezekiah], Paymaster Gen., mentioned, 213, 214
Godfrey, Capt. Silliman, certificate by, 171
Godfrey, Capt. Silliman, remonstrance signed by, 158
Goodell, Charles, mentioned, 178
Goodell, Nathan, mentioned, 177
Goodrich, Albert, petition signed by, 284

Goodrich, Chester, mentioned, 7
Goodrich, Elizur, letters by, 232, 286
Goodrich, Ralph, petition signed by, 284
Goodwin, Mr., mentioned, 267
[Goodwin, Ens. Caleb], mentioned, 199
Goodwin, [George], mentioned, 81
Goodwin, Capt. [Richard E.], mentioned, 195
Goodwin, Major [Richard E.], mentioned, 199, 203
Goodwin, Messrs. & Sons, [printers], 94
Gordon, Lieut. Col. [George W.], mentioned, 2
Goshen, 21
Gould, George, mentioned, 178
Gould, Jonathan, association signed by, 133
Gould, Jonathan, mentioned, 282
Gould, Willard, mentioned, 178
Governor's message, 1816, draft of, 151
Graham, Ebeneze[r], petition signed by, 19
[Graham, George], Secretary of War, mentioned, 280
Granby, 20, 107, 268
Granby, letter dated at, 45
Grannis, Asa, mentioned, 185
Grannis, Chester, letter by, 310
Grannis, Chester, letter to, 311
Grannis, David, Jr., petition signed by, 19
Graves, Benjamin, petition signed by, 165
Graves, Lieut. Hubbard, representation signed by, 68
Graves, Dr. Israel, certificate by, 300
[Graves, Dr. Israel], mentioned, 303
Grave[s], James, representation signed by, 68
Grave[s], John, 3d, representation signed by, 68
Graves, Roswell, petition signed by, 166
Green[field], 133
Greenwich, 21
Gregory, Daniel M., letter by, 80
Gridley, Edwin, mentioned, 185
Gridley, Erastus, mentioned, 185
Griffeth, Smith, mentioned, 6
Griffin, David, petition signed by, 166
Griffin, George R., petition signed by, 165
Griffin, John G., petition signed by, 165
Griffin, Nathan, petition signed by, 165
Griffin, Lieut. Nathan, mentioned, 298
Griffin, Samuel B., petition signed by, 165
Griffing, Samuel, representation signed by, 68
Griswold, I. & C. C., 11
Griswold, Joel, petition signed by, 108
Griswold, Governor [Roger], mentioned, 104, 127, 268
Griswold, 100, 101, 127, 168, 212, 275
Griswold, association for Rifle Co., accepted, 151
Griswold, Light Artillery Co., 22, 32, 179
Griswold, Light Artillery Co., field pieces for, 206
Griswold, Light Artillery Co., has received ordnance, 225
Griswold, Light Artillery Co., to have field piece, 211, 212, 215
Griswold, militia co., wishes to join 2d Co., 18th Regt., 100
Griswold, petition dated at, 100
Griswold, petition from, 100
Griswold, petition from, mentioned, 95
Griswold, Rifle Co., 150, 194
Griswold, Rifle Co., approved, 168
Griswold, Rifle Co., association for, 142
Griswold, Rifle Co., return of officers, mentioned, 173
Griswould, Harry, petition signed by, 125
Grosvenor, Capt. Ebenezer, letters by, 30, 85
Grosvenor, Capt. Ebenezer, letters to, 33, 134
Grosvenor, Capt. [Ebenezer], mentioned, 113, 174
Grosvenor, Payson P., chosen Ensign, 272
Grosvenor, Ens. Payson P., mentioned, 260

Grosvenor, Sergt. Payson P., mentioned, 177
Groton, 71, 113, 128, 161, 274
Groton, Rifle Co., 128
Guess, Harvey, mentioned, 185
Guilford, 1, 7, 12, 17, 18, 24, 67, 74, 170
Guilford, copy of letter dated at, 4
Guilford, letters dated at, 7, 65, 71
Guilford, Light Infantry Co., 65
Gurlick, Henry R., petition signed by, 125

Haddam, 15, 17, 18, 25, 176, 286, 299
Haddam, document dated at, 250
Haddam, Flank Co., commissions for officers, 257
Haddam, Flank Co., status determined, 301, 302, 308
Haddam, letters dated at, 31, 96, 143, 257, 299, 308
Haddam, Light Artillery Co., needs ordnance, 144, 149
Haddam, Light Infantry Co., wishes to elect officers, 299, 300
Hadlyme, 278
Hale, Cilvester, petition signed by, 284
Hale, Sergt. Hezekiah, representation signed by, 56
Hale, [Horatio G.], letter to, 243
Hale, Corp. Joseph, representation signed by, 56
Hale, Orren, petition signed by, 284
Haling, Henry, petition signed by, 284
Haling, Jere, petition signed by, 284
Hall, Col. Abel, letter by, 146
Hall, Col. Abel, letter to, 145
Hall, Col. Abel, mentioned, 59, 98, 133, 148, 157, 159, 160, 205, 281, 284
Hall, Asaph, petition signed by, 284
Hall, Benjamin, mentioned, 282
Hall, David F., petition signed by, 284
Hall, Eben, mentioned, 6
Hall, Ebenezer G., association signed by, 133
Hall, George, petition signed by, 284
Hall, Isaac, mentioned, 282
Hall, Jabez, 3d, petition signed by, 284
Hall, Joseph B., association signed by, 133
Hall, Lewis, association signed by, 133
Hall, Lewis, mentioned, 282
Hall, Lieut. Russell, complaint against, 29
Hall, Samuel B., petition signed by, 284
Hall, Silliman, mentioned, 282
Hall, William B., petition signed by, 284
Hamden, 58
Hammond, Major Asahel, certificate by, 189
Hand, John H., representation signed by, 68
Harris, Sergt. Jacob, representation signed by, 56
Harrison, Corp. Harry, mentioned, 184
Harrison, James, representation signed by, 68
Hart, Bera, mentioned, 181, 184, 186
Hart, Chauncey, 2d, mentioned, 182, 186
Hart, Chauncey, 2d, subscription signed by, 183
Hart, Chester, mentioned, 187
Hart, Edward, mentioned, 186
Hart, Francis, mentioned, 187
Hart, Jerre, 2d, mentioned, 186
Hart, Jesse, mentioned, 182, 183
Hart, Levi, mentioned, 185
Hart, Newton, mentioned, 185
Hart, Norman, mentioned, 187
Hart, Oliver, mentioned, 187
Hart, Ozias, mentioned, 186
Hart, Romanta, mentioned, 186
Hart, Samuel, Jr., mentioned, 186
Hart, Stephen, 3d, mentioned, 181, 183
Hart, Wakeman N., mentioned, 187
Hartford, 15, 17, 20, 22, 33, 36, 48, 54, 55, 57, 59, 72, 80, 81, 94, 105, 110, 144, 150, 196, 208, 214, 224, 225, 243, 275, 295
Hartford, letters addressed to, 39, 243
Hartford, letters dated at, 2, 39, 44, 57, 70, 91, 170, 198, 199, 200, 207, 217, 218, 239, 267
Hartford, return dated at, 55
Hartford, West Division, 20
Hartford County, 107
Hartland, 21, 85
Hartland, militia co., 94, 95
Hartland, West Society, 84

Hartley, Ira, mentioned, 187
Harvey, Josiah, petition signed by, 166
Harvey, Russel, petition signed by, 165
Harvey, Russel, 3d, petition signed by, 166
Harwinton, 21
Haskell, John, petition signed by, 108
Hatch, Lieut. Chauncey M., letter signed by, 120
Hawkins, Ebenezer, association signed by, 133
Hawley, Isaac B., letter signed by, 131
Hayden, Alvin, mentioned, 187
Hayden, Major Moses, letters by, 101, 155
Hayden, Lieut. Col. Nathaniel, mentioned, 83, 85, 95
Hayden, Ziba, mentioned, 187
Hays, Richard, petition signed by, 166
Hebron, Flank Co., 297
Hemmingway, Abina, mentioned, 185
Herd, Newel, mentioned, 6
Hickcox, Daniel, petition signed by, 19
Hickcox, Daniel, Jr., petition signed by, 19
Hicks, David, Jr., mentioned, 178
Hicks, Zadok, mentioned, 177
Hicok, Capt. Aaron, petition signed by, 141
Higgins, Capt. Gideon, letter by, requesting discharge, 176
Hill, James, representation signed, by, 68
Hill, Joseph, recommendation signed by, 250
Hine, Capt. Hermon, certificate by, 117
Hine, Capt. [Hermon], mentioned, 135
Hinkley, Ebenezer, petition signed by, 166
Hinman, James, petition signed by, 20
Hinman, James, 3d, petition signed by, 19
Hitchcock, Cyrus, mentioned, 181, 185
Hitchcock, Cyrus, subscription signed by, 181
Hitchcock, Franklin, mentioned, 185
Hitchcock, Harmon, mentioned, 186
Hitchcock, Oliver, letter by, 49
Hitchcock, Oliver, letter to, 60
Hitchcock, Salmon, mentioned, 185
Hitchcock, Ens. [Samuel J.] Brigade Major and Inspector, mentioned, 252
Hoadly, Col. George, letter by, 273
Hoadly, Col. George, letter to, 280
Hodge, Hiram, petition signed by, 284
Holbrook, Nathan, Jr., mentioned, 181, 185
Holbrook, Nathan, Jr., subscription signed by, 182
Holcomb, Major Jesse P., remonstrance signed by, 106
Holdridge, Henry M., petition signed by, 284
Hollister, Alpheus, mentioned, 6
Holmes, Judge Eliphalet, letters by, 209, 297
Holmes, Judge Eliphalet, letters to, 224, 245
Holmes, Judge [Eliphalet], mentioned, 176, 206, 216
Holt, George B., letter by, requesting discharge, 88
Hooker, Saxa, mentioned, 182, 184
Hosmer, Charles, Adjt., discharged, 75
Hosmer, Charles, Adjt., letter by, 57
Hosmer, Charles, Adjt., letter by, requesting discharge, 57, 70
Hosmer, Charles, Adjt., letter to, 62
Hosmer, Charles, Adjt., return signed by, 55
Hotchkiss, Benoni, mentioned, 186
Hotchkiss, Lieut. Hezekiah, Jr., mentioned, 169
Hotchkiss, Horace, mentioned, 186
Hotchkiss, Miles, mentioned, 186
Howard, Palmer, mentioned, 188, 192
Howard, Palmer, petition signed by, 189
Howd, John, mentioned, 185
Howe, Brig. Gen. Hezekiah, copy of letter to, 4
Howe, Brig. Gen. Hezekiah, letter to, 13
Howe, Brig. Gen. [Hezekiah], mentioned, 3, 12, 29, 76, 170, 171, 216

Howe, Brig. Gen. Hezekiah, order to, 41
Hoyt, Walter, residence mentioned, 277
Hubbard, Elijah, petition signed by, 284
Hubbard, Maj. Gen. John, letter to, 89
Hubbard, Ens. Josiah M., representation signed by, 56
Hubbard, Rich[ar]d, petition signed by, 19
Hubbell, Isaac, association signed by, 133
Hubbell, Isaac, mentioned, 282
Hubbell, Nathaniel, association signed by, 133
Hubbell, Nath[anie]l, mentioned, 282
Hudson, Henry, recommended as Quartermaster Gen., 200, 201
Hull, Elijah, mentioned, 186
Hull, Elijah G., mentioned, 186
Hull, Col. Elisha, mentioned, 58
Hull, Josiah, petition signed by, 19
Hull, Stephen, petition signed by, 19
Humphreys, Lieut. Col. Arnold P., letter signed by, 45
Humphreys, Lieut. Col. Arnold P., letters by, 40, 69
Humphreys, Lieut. Col. Arnold P., letters to, 60, 78
Humphreys, Capt. Decius, letter to, 34
Humphreys, Capt. Decius, letters by, 26, 102
Humphreys, Capt. [Decius], mentioned, 120
Humphreysville, 120
Humphry, Cam[p]bel[l], petition signed by, 108
Humphry, Cam[p]bel[l], remonstrance signed by, 107
Humphry, Campbell, Jr., remonstrance signed by, 107
Humphry, Mark, remonstrance signed by, 107
Hungerford, Josiah, petition signed by, 165
Huntington, Maj. Gen. Ebenezer, Adjt. Gen., letters by, 23, 35, 44, 59, 80, 94, 104, 132, 142, 158, 160, 162, 167, 173, 174, 179, 205, 215, 225, 233, 239, 243, 248, 261, 287, 297
Huntington, Maj. Gen. Ebenezer, Adjt. Gen., letters to, 1, 14, 20, 22, 34, 84, 93, 112, 127, 134, 151, 161, 193, 211, 221, 228, 231, 238, 240, 244, 279, 294
[Huntington, Maj. Gen. Ebenezer], Adjt. Gen., mentioned, 11, 12, 13, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, 48, 49, 50, 53, 57, 65, 69, 75, 78, 85, 98, 99, 106, 110, 114, 115, 118, 119, 124, 137, 141, 156, 176, 225, 227, 238, 241, 245, 260, 266, 267, 273, 275, 276, 285, 299, 300, 302
Huntington, Maj. Gen. Ebenezer, Adjt. Gen., note by, 101
Huntington, Mrs. Ebenezer [Lucretia Mary McClellan], mentioned, 81, 128, 180, 206, 217, 221
Huntington, [Roger], mentioned, 158, 167
Huntington, Capt. Selden, letters by, 257, 308
Huntington, Capt. Selden, letters to, 13, 92, 265
Huntington, Capt. Selden, mentioned, 92
Huntington, Capt. Simon, letter by, requesting discharge, 291
Huntington, Capt. Simon, letters to, 299, 301
Huntington, 21, 47, 267, 275
Hurd, William, petition signed by, 141
Hurlbut, Alanson, petition signed by, 284
Hurlbut, Charles, petition signed by, 284
Hurlbut, Halsey, petition signed by, 284
Hurlbut, Job, mentioned, 6
Hurlbut, Jona[than], petition signed by, 284
Hurlbut, Brig. Gen. [Leonard], mentioned, 88, 304
Hurlbut, Orin, mentioned, 7
Hurlbut, Saul, petition signed by, 125
Hurlbut, Seymour, mentioned, 6

Implements, for rifles, listed, 9, 10
Ingalls, Judge [Lemuel], mentioned, 179
Ingals, Caleb, mentioned, 177
Ingals, Elisha, mentioned, 177

Ingals, Corp. George S., mentioned, 177
Ingals, Lemuel, letter by, 230
Ingals, Lemuel, letter to, 241
Ingals, Marvin, mentioned, 178
[Ingersoll, Jonathan], Lieut. Governor, mentioned, 95, 127
Instructions, concerning keeping of orderly books, 238
Instructions, concerning Rifle Corps, 51
Instructions, for forming rifle company, 33, 76, 77
Instructions, for preparing orderly books, 241
Instructions, request for, 234
Interchangeable parts, in rifles, 86
Isbel, William, petition signed by, 125
Isham, Maj. Gen. [Jirah], mentioned, 271, 276, 291, 309, 310
Ives, Chauncey, mentioned, 99
Ives, Chauncey, petition signed by, 83
Ives, Capt. Joel, copy of letter by, 3

Jackson, Daniel, association signed by, 133
Jackson, Daniel, mentioned, 282
Jackson, Lucius, mentioned, 282
James, Walter, mentioned, 188, 192
James, Walter, petition signed by, 189
Jay, [John], Governor, mentioned, 251
Jewett, Col. George W., letter to, 96
Jewett, Col. George W., letters by, 141, 250
Jewett, Col. [George W.], mentioned, 1, 144, 147
Joh[n]son, Adna, mentioned, 186
Johnson, Adna, 2d, mentioned, 184
Johnson, Sergt. Carney, mentioned, 184
Johnson, Christopher, petition signed by, 165
Johnson, Ebenezer, mentioned, 282
Johnson, John, petition signed by, 19
Johnson, Leverit, mentioned, 186
Johnson, Merriman, mentioned, 186
Johnson, Col. Nathan, letter by, 199
Johnson, Col. [Nathan], mentioned, 144
Johnson, Sturges, mentioned, 282
Jones, Asa, petition signed by, 165
Jones, Diodate, petition signed by, 166
Jones, Eliphalet, petition signed by, 165
Jones, Ezra, petition signed by, 166
Jones, Harry, petition signed by, 165
Jones, John E., mentioned, 181
Jones, John E., subscription signed by, 182
Jones, Corp. John E., mentioned, 184
Judd, Allen, mentioned, 187
Judd, Amzi, mentioned, 187
Judd, Dan[ie]l, Jr., mentioned, 187
Judd, Eber, representation signed by, 68
Judd, James, mentioned, 187
Judd, Jotham, mentioned, 186
Judd, Justus, mentioned, 185
Judson, Lieut. Col. Andrew T., mentioned, 189, 193
Judson, Major Andrew T., certificate by, 189
Judson, Major Andrew T., letter by, 40
Judson, Major Andrew T., letter to, 50

Kellogg, Epanetus, residence mentioned, 277, 285
Kellogg, Martin, mentioned, 6
Kelsey, Joel, mentioned, 186
Kendal, Smith, mentioned, 177
Kensington, 162, 182
Kent, 21
Kibbe, Lieut. Col. Amariah, Jr., letter by, 63
Kibbe, Lieut. Col. Amariah, Jr., letter to, 72
Killingly, South Society, 41
Killingworth, 17, 18, 150
Killingworth, certificate dated at, 64
Killingworth, letter dated at, 64
Kimberley, Ens. Dennis, mentioned, 253, 254
King, Isaac, Jr., mentioned, 178
King, Rufus, mentioned, 209
[Kingsbury, Andrew], Treasurer, mentioned, 214
Knight, Dr. Jonathan, certificate signed by, 28
Knowles, Hezekiah, letter signed by, 300

Lacey, Captain, mentioned, 174
Lancaster, Pa., 86
Langdon, John, mentioned, 186
Lawton, Isaac, mentioned, 178
Lawton, John, mentioned, 177
Lay, Elias, petition signed by, 165
Lay, Willoughby L., representation signed by, 68
Learned, George, complaint to, 237
Learned, George, mentioned, 236
Learned, George, warrant issued by, 237
Leavenworth, Sergt. Philo, petition signed by, 125
Leavenworth, Trumon, petition signed by, 125
Leavenworth, Corp. Wait, petition signed by, 125
Leavett, [William], mentioned, 88
Lebanon, letter dated at, 190
Lee, Barzillai, mentioned, 186
Lee, Fred[eric]k R., representation signed by, 69
Lee, Jonathan, representation signed by, 69
Lee, Selah, representation signed by, 69
Lester, Capt. [John], mentioned, 180, 212
Lewis, Asahel, 2d, mentioned, 186
Lewis, Charles, complaint against for theft, 237
Lewis, Charles, warrant for arrest of, 237
Lewis, Meriwether & Clark, George Rogers, *History of the expedition . . . to the . . . Missouri . . . and . . . to the Pacific Ocean,* 244
Lewis, Selah, Jr., mentioned, 186
Lewis, Seth, mentioned, 186
Linsley, Sergt. Jacob, discharge recommended, 13
Linsley, Sergt. Jacob, letter by, requesting discharge, 3
Linsley, Sergt. Jacob, letter to, 12
Lisbon, Rifle Co., abandoned, 158
List, of persons doing military duty in Berlin, 186
Litchfield, 21, 36, 47, 94, 244, 258, 259, 269, 275, 278
Litchfield, certificate dated at, 122
Litchfield, letter addressed to, 229
Litchfield, letters dated at, 88, 121, 288
Litchfield, militia co., 4, 8
Lockwood, David, Paymaster, remonstrance signed by, 158
Loomis, Col. James, mentioned, 57, 63
Lord, Diodate, petition signed by, 166
Loveland, Ezra, petition signed by, 19
Loveland, Isaac, petition signed by, 19
Loveland, Richard, petition signed by, 19
Lo[ve]land, Titus, petition signed by, 19
Lucas, Ira, mentioned, 6
Lum, Lieut. [Adam, Jr.], mentioned, 147
Lum, Lieut. Adam, Jr., petition signed by, 141
Lumis, Chester, mentioned, 188, 192
Lumis, Chester, petition signed by, 189
Lusk, Seth, Jr., mentioned, 187
Lyme, 164, 193, 195, 196, 207, 228, 235, 239
Lyme, Artillery Co., 220
Lyme, Flank Co., requests to be disbanded, 219, 220
Lyme, Flank Co., should be disbanded, 246
Lyme, letter addressed to, 206
Lyme, letters dated at, 195, 219, 234
Lyn[n], Benjamin, petition signed by, 19
Lyon, Peter, mentioned, 282
Lyon, Sherwood, association signed by, 133
Lyon, Walker, association signed by, 133
Lyon, Walker, mentioned, 282
Lyon, Walter, 2d, mentioned, 178
Lyon, Warren, mentioned, 178

McCleve, Robert, petition signed by, 284
McEwen, Rev. Abel, letter by, 197
McNairy, Morris J., mentioned, 6
McNary, Capt. George, mentioned, 101
[Madison, James], President, mentioned, 211
Magee, [Mr.] *Atonement,* 244
Mallory, Eben, petition signed by, 125
Map, of Connecticut, 268

March, [Marks, Col. William], mentioned, 258
Markham, Sergt. Hiram, mentioned, 6
Marlborough, 34, 36, 48, 274
Marlborough, letter dated at, 23
Marsh, Lieut. James, certificate signed by, 122
Marsh, Jonah, petition signed by, 166
Marsh, William, petition signed by, 166
Marsh, Woodward, petition signed by, 166
Marsh, Woodward, Jr., petition signed by, 166
Marshall, John, *Life of George Washington,* 244
Marshall, John, mentioned, 209
Martin, Samuel, petition signed by, 166
Martin, William, petition signed by, 166
Massachusetts, 80
Masters, Almarene, petition signed by, 125
Mather, Cyprian, mentioned, 181, 183, 187
Mather, Major [Robert T.], mentioned, 170
Mather, William, petition signed by, 108
Mather, William, remonstrance signed by, 107
Matthews, Amasa, mentioned, 184
Matthews, Herman, mentioned, 184
Matthews, Jonas, mentioned, 184
Mattswamp tier of lots, Winsted, 84, 99
May, Col. Jonathan, copy of order to, 242
May, Col. Jonathan, letter to, 272
May, Col. Jonathan, letters by, 178, 260
[May, Col. Jonathan], mentioned, 231, 241, 242
Maynerd, James, petition signed by, 165
Meeker, Daniel, petition signed by, 19
Meigs, Daniel, representation signed by, 69
Meigs, Jno. F., representation signed by, 69
Meigs, Phinehas, representation signed by, 68
Meriden, 47, 275
Merrels, Lieut. Erastus, requests discharge, 101
Merriman, Albert, mentioned, 184
Merriman, Anson, mentioned, 184
Merriman, Ezra, mentioned, 184
Merriman, Leonard, mentioned, 184
Merriman, Marcus, mentioned, 184
Merriman, Rogers, mentioned, 184
Merriman, Sebra, mentioned, 184
Merriman, Stephen, mentioned, 184
Merritt, Capt. John B., certificate by, 173
Merritt, Capt. John B., letter signed by, 139
Merwin, Capt. Nathan, 2d, letter by, 26
Merwin, Capt. Nathan, 2d, letter to, 32
Merwin, Capt. [Nathan, 2d], mentioned, 47
Meshanel, Oliver, mentioned, 186
Middle Haddam, 285
Middlebury, 21
Middlesex County, 163
Middletown, 1, 16, 20, 32, 47, 52, 56, 218, 275
Middletown, document dated at, 56
Middletown, letters dated at, 4, 8, 38, 47, 96, 97, 109, 197, 201, 247, 255, 269, 286
Middletown, representation from, 56
Middletown Fire Engine Co., 96, 97
Milford, letter dated at, 123
Military exempts, 186, 187, 188
Militia, alteration in composition of, 141, 143, 281
Militia, appointment of general officers, 89, 90
Militia, bill in Congress for payment of, 210, 215
Militia, reduction of companies in, 56
Militia, reorganization of, 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 30, 32, 35, 36, 40, 41, 44, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 59, 61, 65, 66, 67, 69, 75, 78, 81, 82, 84, 89, 90, 94, 95, 98, 99, 100, 102, 104, 106, 116, 120, 121, 124, 125, 127, 128, 129, 138, 139, 141, 143, 147, 152, 153, 154, 156, 157, 161, 163, 164, 176, 178, 188, 189, 192, 193, 195, 216, 219, 220, 221, 228, 248, 255, 259, 261, 263, 266, 267, 268,

269, 271, 273, 276, 277, 278, 279, 281, 283, 304, 310
Militia, reorganization of, difficulties cited, 287
Militia, reorganization of, explained, 148
Militia, uniforms, 79, 255
Militia, uniforms for general officers, 79
Militia, Artillery, 35, 92, 102, 121, 143, 148, 152, 243, 245
Militia, Artillery, not to be inspected, 77
Militia, Artillery, uniforms, 90, 91 115
Militia, Cavalry, 52, 92, 104, 148, 152, 243, 245
Militia, Cavalry, recruiting in, 296
Militia, Cavalry, reduction of, 16, 17
Militia, Cavalry, uniforms, 52, 66
Militia, Cavalry, 1st Regt., 2, 16
Militia, Cavalry, 1st Regt., 1st Troop, 42, 109, 167
Militia, Cavalry, 1st Regt., 2d Troop, 108
Militia, Cavalry, 1st Regt., 3d Troop, 2, 3
Militia, Cavalry, 2d Regt., 53
Militia, Cavalry, 2d Regt., 3d Troop, 29, 190
Militia, Cavalry, 3d Regt., 53, 179
Militia, Cavalry, 5th Regt., 179
Militia, Cavalry, 5th Regt., 1st Troop, 289
Militia, Cavalry, [5th Regt.], 3d Troop, 191
Militia, Cavalry, 6th Regt., 2d Troop, 105
Militia, Cavalry, 7th Regt., 16, 42
Militia, Cavalry, 7th Regt., 6th Troop, 6, 13, 226
Militia, Cavalry, 7th Regt., 6th Troop, muster roll, 6
Militia, Cavalry, 8th Regt., 1st Troop, 288, 289
Militia, Field Artillery, 173
Militia, Flank companies, 50, 141, 243, 281
Militia, Flank companies, enlistment in, 265
Militia, Horse Artillery, 5, 15, 25, 29, 30, 52, 81, 104, 138, 150, 156, 159
Militia, Horse Artillery, to recruit from Infantry, 280
Militia, Horse Artillery, uniforms, 53
Militia, Horse Artillery, 1st Regt., instructions for enlisting requested, 273, 274
Militia, Horse Artillery, 2d Regt., 53, 71, 161
Militia, Horse Artillery, 3d Regt., 146, 173, 179, 205
Militia, Infantry, 92, 102, 120, 121, 134, 148, 152, 243, 244, 274, 280
Militia, Infantry, general orders concerning, 279
Militia, Infantry, general orders concerning alterations in organization, 276
Militia, Infantry, resolution concerning flank companies, 155
Militia, Light Artillery, 7, 12, 32, 150
Militia, Light Artillery, uniforms, 53
Militia, Light Artillery, 1st Regt., 2d Co., 144
Militia, Light Artillery, 1st Regt., 9th Co., 142
Militia, Light Artillery, 1st Regt., 12th Co., 120
Militia, Light Artillery, 2d Regt., 2d Co., 120
Militia, Light Artillery, 2d Regt., 4th Co., 120
Militia, Light Artillery, 2d Regt., 5th Co., 303, 306
Militia, Light Artillery, 2d Regt., 7th Co., 120
Militia, Light Artillery, 2d Regt., 10th Co., 155
Militia, Light Artillery, 2d Regt., 12th Co., 101
Militia, Light Infantry, 6, 12, 13, 40, 41
Militia, Light Infantry, New Haven Co., 222
Militia, Light Infantry, suggested uniform, approved, 290
Militia, Light Infantry, uniform described, 290
Militia, Rifle Corps, 15, 30, 31, 33, 37, 38, 44, 74, 86, 87, 92, 113, 126, 129, 132, 136, 137, 142, 145, 148, 153, 156, 179, 205, 243, 245, 287
Militia, Rifle Corps, equipment for, 263

Militia, Rifle Corps, general orders concerning, 279
Militia, Rifle Corps, instructions concerning, 51, 61
Militia, Rifle Corps, organization of companies in, 47, 48, 51
Militia, Rifle Corps, regulations concerning, 61, 62
Militia, Rifle Corps, rifles for, 247, 269, 270, 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, uniforms, 247, 264, 270, 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., list of companies in, 274
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., 1st Co., 274
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., 2d Co., 274
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., 3d Co., 274
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., 4th Co., 47, 274
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., 5th Co., 274
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., 6th Co., 274
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., 7th Co., 274
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., 8th Co., 274
Militia, Rifle Corps, 1st Regt., 9th Co., 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., list of companies in, 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 1st Co., 197, 204, 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 2d Co., 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 3d Co., 48, 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 4th Co., 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 5th Co., 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 6th Co., 47, 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 7th Co., 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 8th Co., 48, 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 9th Co., 48, 275
Militia, Rifle Corps, 2d Regt., 10th Co., 48
Militia, State Corps, 76, 77, 129, 274, 275
Militia, State Corps, uniform, 110
Militia, State Corps, Artillery, 64
Militia, State Corps, Artillery, 4th Co., 35
Militia, State Corps, [1st Regt.], 1st Co., 58, 59
Militia, State Corps, 1st Regt., 2d Co., 58, 74
Militia, State Corps, 1st Regt., 4th Co., 122
Militia, State Corps, 1st Regt., 10th Co., 161, 162
Militia, State Corps, 2d Regt., 2d Co., 30, 33
Militia, State Corps, 10th Co., 182
Militia, 1st Brigade, 24, 35, 179
Militia, 1st Brigade, composition of, 20
Militia, 1st Brigade, 1st Regt., 20, 57, 63, 69, 72, 73, 75, 78, 91, 102, 106
Militia, [1st Brigade], 1st Regt., return of men performing military duty in 1809–1815, 54
Militia, [1st Brigade], 1st Regt., 1st Co., 54
Militia, [1st Brigade], 1st Regt., 2d Co., 55, 139
Militia, [1st Brigade], 1st Regt., 3d Co., 54
Militia, [1st Brigade], 1st Regt., 4th Co., 55
Militia, [1st Brigade], 1st Regt., 6th Co., 55
Militia, [1st Brigade], 1st Regt., 8th Co., 55
Militia, [1st Brigade], 1st Regt., 9th Co., 54
Militia, [1st Brigade], 1st Regt., 19th Co., 91
Militia, 1st Brigade, 6th Regt., 20, 283, 285
Militia, [1st Brigade], 6th Regt., Flank Co., 116
Militia, [1st Brigade], 6th Regt., 2d Flank Co., uniform described, 306, 307
Militia, 1st Brigade, 14th Regt., 20
Militia [1st Brigade], 14th Regt., status of flank companies, 310
Militia, [1st Brigade], 14th Regt., status of flank companies to be determined by new governor, 311
Militia, [1st Brigade], 14th Regt., 3d Co., 304

Militia, [1st Brigade], 14th Regt., 5th Co., 304
Militia, [1st Brigade], 14th Regt., 5th Co., muster roll, 184, 186
Militia, 1st Brigade, 17th Regt., 20, 69, 78
Militia, [1st Brigade], 17th Regt., 1st Co., 105, 106, 107
Militia, [1st Brigade], 18th Regt., 40, 45, 69
Militia, [1st Brigade], 18th Regt., 1st Co., 106
Militia, [1st Brigade], 18th Regt., 8th Co., 39
Militia, [1st Brigade], 19th Regt., 73
Militia, [1st Brigade], 31st Regt., 63
Militia, 2d Brigade, 4, 13, 14, 22, 24, 35, 36, 44, 170, 174, 179
Militia, [2d Brigade], 2d Regt., 35, 117, 141, 216
Militia, [2d Brigade], 2d Regt., 2d Co., 85
Militia, [2d Brigade], 2d Regt., 2d Flank Co., uniform approved, 227
Militia, [2d Brigade], 2d Regt., 6th Co., 118, 119, 129
Militia, [2d Brigade], 2d Regt., 8th Co., 27
Militia, [2d Brigade], 2d Regt., 10th Co., 8
Militia, [2d Brigade], 6th Regt., 2d Co., 46
Militia, [2d Brigade], 7th Regt., 1, 16–17, 17, 31, 35, 67, 76, 82, 300
Militia, [2d Brigade, 7th Regt.], location of companies in, 17, 18
Militia, [2d Brigade], 7th Regt., 2d Flank Co., 92, 257, 258, 308
Militia, [2d Brigade], 7th Regt., 2d Flank Co., status determined, 301
Militia, [2d Brigade], 7th Regt., 4th Co., 249, 250
Militia, [2d Brigade], 7th Regt., 6th Co., 31
Militia, [2d Brigade], 7th Regt., 7th Co. 170
Militia, [2d Brigade], 10th Regt., 1, 35
Militia, [2d Brigade], 10th Regt., Flank Co., 73, 74
Militia, [2d Brigade], 27th Regt., 2d Co., 3, 13
Militia, [2d Brigade], 27th Regt., 4th Co., 67
Militia, [2d Brigade], 27th Regt., Light Infantry Co., from Guilford, 7
Militia, [2d Brigade], 32d Regt., 117
Militia, 3d Brigade, 1, 14, 22, 24, 36, 44, 174, 179
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 225
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 1st Co., 271
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 2d Flank Co., 261
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 2d Flank Co., enlistment in, 195
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 2d Flank Co., requests to be disbanded, 219, 220
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 2d Flank Co., should be disbanded, 235
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 3d Co., 228, 261
Militia, 3d Brigade, 3d Regt., 5th Co., 271
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 6th Co., 225, 226, 271
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 7th Co., 163, 225, 226, 228, 235, 245, 246, 261, 277
Militia, [3d Brigade], 3d Regt., 8th Co., 225, 226, 271
Militia, [3d Brigade], 8th Regt., 1st Co., 100
Militia, [3d Brigade], 8th Regt., 2d Flank Co., 174
Militia, [3d Brigade], 8th Regt., 4th Co., 132
Militia, [3d Brigade], 11th Regt., 111
Militia, [3d Brigade], 18th Regt., 2d Co., 100
Militia, [3d Brigade], 18th Regt., 5th Co., 100
Militia, [3d Brigade], 20th Regt., 164, 165
Militia, [3d Brigade], 20th Regt., 1st Co., 75, 176, 278
Militia, [3d Brigade], 20th Regt., 2d Co., 163
Militia, [3d Brigade], 20th Regt., 2d Flank Co., 279
Militia, [3d Brigade], 20th Regt., 3d Co., 283, 285
Militia, 4th Brigade, 22, 24, 35, 151

Militia, 4th Brigade, composition of, 21, 266, 267
Militia, 4th Brigade, 4th Regt., 21, 266
Militia, [4th Brigade], 4th Regt., formation of, 288
Militia, [4th Brigade], 4th Regt., 8th Co., 120
Militia, 4th Brigade, 9th Regt., 21
Militia, [4th Brigade] 9th Regt., 6th Co., 276, 277, 278, 285
Militia, 4th Brigade, 15th Regt., 21, 27, 301
Militia, 4th Brigade, 24th Regt., 21, 22, 148, 150, 156, 157, 179, 262, 282, 292, 293
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., protests relocation of companies in, 138, 139
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 1st Co., 172
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 1st Grenadier Co., 172
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 2d Co., 139, 156, 173
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 2d Grenadier Co., 171
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 3d Co., 278
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 4th Co., 173
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 5th Co., 171
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 6th Co., 172
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 7th Co., 139, 156
Militia, [4th Brigade], 24th Regt., 8th Co., 139, 172, 173, 278
Militia, [4th Brigade], 28th Regt., Grenadier Co., 266
Militia, 4th Brigade, 28th Regt., 7th Co., 98
Militia, [4th Brigade], 34th Regt., 1st Co., 88
Militia, 5th Brigade, 2, 21, 22, 24, 25, 50, 174, 179
Militia, [5th Brigade], 5th Regt., 40, 261
Militia, [5th Brigade], 5th Regt., 1st Flank Co., 192
Militia, [5th Brigade], 5th Regt., 2d Co., 161, 262, 277
Militia, [5th Brigade], 5th Regt., 5th Co., 277, 278
Militia, [5th Brigade], 5th Regt., Grenadier Co., 188, 189
Militia, [5th Brigade], 11th Regt., 242
Militia, [5th Brigade], 11th Regt., 3d Flank Co., 177, 242, 260, 277, 294, 297
Militia, [5th Brigade], 11th Regt., 3d Flank Co., officers approved, 272, 273
Militia, [5th Brigade], 11th Regt., 5th Co., 261, 273, 277
Militia, [5th Brigade], 11th Regt., 6th Co., 161, 261, 277
Militia, [5th Brigade], 11th Regt., 7th Co., 177, 178
Militia, [5th Brigade], 19th Regt., 3d Co., 63
Militia, [5th Brigade], 23d Regt., 188
Militia, [5th Brigade], 23d Regt., 2d Flank Co., 192
Militia, 6th Brigade, 24, 35, 88, 179
Militia, 6th Brigade, composition of, 21
Militia, 6th Brigade, 12th Regt., 21, 140, 141, 146
Militia, 6th Brigade, 13th Regt., 21
Militia, [6th Brigade], 13th Regt., Light Infantry Co., 131
Militia, 6th Brigade, 16th Regt., 21
Militia, [6th Brigade], 16th Regt., 1st Co., 259, 277, 278, 279
Militia, [6th Brigade, 16th Regt.], 1st Flank Co., 268
Militia, [6th Brigade], 16th Regt., 3d Flank Co., 259, 278
Militia, [6th Brigade], 16th Regt., 5th Co., 259, 278
Militia, [6th Brigade], 16th Regt., 6th Co., 259, 263, 268, 278, 279
Militia, [6th Brigade], 17th Regt., 122
Militia, [6th Brigade], 17th Regt., 17th Co., 304
Militia, 6th Brigade, 21st Regt., 21, 85, 297
Militia, [6th Brigade], 21st Regt., 3d Co., 305
Militia, [6th Brigade], 21st Regt., 6th Co., 84
Militia, [6th Brigade], 21st Regt., 6th Co., alteration in, 94, 95
Militia, [6th Brigade], 21st Regt., 7th Co., 84

Militia, [6th Brigade], 21st Regt., 7th Co., alteration in, 94, 95
Militia, [6th Brigade, 25th Regt.], 83
Militia, [6th Brigade], 25th Regt., 3d Co., 304
Militia, [7th Brigade], 15th Regt., 35
Militia, [7th Brigade], 24th Regt., 1st Co., 75
Militia, [8th Brigade], 13th Regt., 140
Militia, [8th Brigade], 13th Regt., 1st Co., Light Infantry, 124, 125
Militia, [8th Brigade], 29th Regt., Artillery Co., 117
Militia companies, record books of, 233, 234
Militia companies, relocation of, 266, 267
Militia law, in Conn., copy of for United States, requested, 280
Miller, Warren, mentioned, 177
Millington, 193, 225, 228, 235, 261, 277
Millington, application for Flank Co., accepted, 245
Millington, desires to form Flank Co., 163, 164, 165
Millington, Flank Co., 206, 210, 212, 216, 240, 279
Millington, Flank Co., established, 246, 248
Millington, Flank Co., officers, 298
Millington, Flank Co., petition for, 221
Millington, Flank Co., to be formed in, 220, 227, 228
Millington, Flank Co., uniform described, 297
Miner, Charles, petition signed by, 166
Miner, Henry, petition signed by, 166
Miner, Turner, petition signed by, 166
Minor, Lieut. Gilbert S., discharged, 289
Minor, Lieut. Gilbert S., recommended for discharge, 288
Mitchell, Corp. Asa, 2d, mentioned, 6
Mitchell, Levi, mentioned, 6
Monroe, James, Secretary of State, letter to, 54
Monroe, [James], Secretary of State, mentioned, 25, 205
Montville, 228, 233, 239
Moore, Capt. Elihu, letters by, 105, 296
Moore, Col. [William, IV], mentioned, 225, 227, 235, 245, 272, 291, 309, 310
More, Oliver, mentioned, 184
Morgan, Capt. [Avery], mentioned, 298
Morse, Freeman, mentioned, 184
Mosher, Capt. Archibald, mentioned, 191
Muddy Brook, 161, 248, 260, 261, 273, 277
Munger, Horace, representation signed by, 68
Munger, Jesse, representation signed by, 69
Munger, William, representation signed by, 68
Munson, Wyllys, representation signed by, 69
Murray, Sergt. [Daniel], mentioned, 305
Murray, Sergt. Daniel, recommended for discharge, 304
Murray, Sergt. Daniel, requests discharge, 304
Musicians, uniform described, 307
Muskets, 9
Muster roll, 6
Muster roll, of Southington militia co., 184
Mygatt, Lieut. Thomas, letter by, requesting discharge, 46

Neal, Albern, mentioned, 184
Neal, Joel, mentioned, 185
Neal, John, Jr., mentioned, 184
Negroes, of Norwich, protest against paying poll-tax, 229, 230
Negroes, of Norwich, request equal rights in return for payment of poll-tax, 229, 230
[New] Britain, 162, 182, 184, 187
New Canaan, 21, 277, 285
New Canaan, certificate dated at, 171, 172
New Fairfield, 21
New Hartford, 21
New Haven, 24, 128, 134, 135, 136, 143, 147, 150, 151, 169, 177, 180, 194, 197, 215, 218, 245, 281, 310

New Haven, certificates dated at, 28, 173
New Haven, letters addressed to, 155, 163, 167, 168, 170, 176
New Haven, letters dated at, 27, 28, 77, 168, 222, 232, 252, 256, 273, 289
New Haven, Light Infantry Co., uniforms approved, 254
New Haven, Light Infantry Co., uniforms described, 222, 252, 253
New Haven, resolution dated at, 155
New London, 24, 71, 180, 206, 207, 211, 213, 216, 309
New London, arsenal at, 203
New London, arsenal at, status of, 202
New London, arsenal at, to be returned to private hands, 212
New London, copy of letter dated at, 213
New London, letters dated at, 197, 271, 291, 309
New London County, 100, 163, 164
New Milford, 21, 303, 304
New Milford, letter dated at, 303
New Preston, 21
New Salem, 163, 164, 193, 225, 228, 238, 243, 261, 262, 277, 279, 297
New Salem, Flank Co., 216, 235, 240
New Salem, Flank Co., return of, 239
New Stratford, 267, 288
New York (City), 11, 16, 290
New York (State), 169, 174, 236, 251
Newell, Sergt. Cromwell, mentioned, 184
Newell, Joshua, mentioned, 184
Newell, Mark, 2d, mentioned, 184
Newell, Pomroy, 2d, mentioned, 186
Newhall, Joshua, mentioned, 181
Newhall, Joshua, subscription signed by, 183
Newton, [Mr.], *Works*, 244
Newtown, 21, 36, 76, 113, 161, 275
Newtown, letters dated at, 58, 74
Newtown, militia co., wishes to join Rifle Corps, 74, 76
Nicholas, John M., representation signed by, 69
Nichols, Roswell, association signed by, 133
Niles, Dan B., mentioned, 6
Non-commissioned officers, rules concerning choice of, 130
Norfolk, 21, 95
Norfolk, certification dated at, 85
Norfolk, letter dated at, 189
North, Alvin, mentioned, 187
North, Capt. Seth J., mentioned, 186
North Branford, 18
North Bristol, 18
North Haven, 12, 17, 18, 67, 216
North Haven, letter dated at, 37
North Killingworth, 18
North Milford, 47, 275
North Milford, letter dated at, 26
North Salem, 233
North Woodstock, 260
Northfield, 258, 259, 278
Northford, 18
Norton, Lewis, petition signed by, 19
Norton, Samuel, representation signed by, 68
Norwalk, 21, 88, 277
Norwich, 24, 25, 59, 71, 180, 231
Norwich, letter addressed to, 161
Norwich, letters dated at, 35, 80, 94, 104, 132, 142, 158, 160, 162, 167, 173, 174, 179, 205, 215, 225, 229, 233, 239, 243, 248, 261, 287, 297
Norwich, Negroes of, protest against paying poll-tax, 229

Officers, choice of, 204
Officers, elected for Flank Co. in Abington, 260
Officers, election of, 131
Officers, for 3d Flank Co., 11th Regt., approved, 272, 273
Officers, for Weston Rifle Co., return of, 146
Officers, for Weston Rifle Co., to be elected, 145
Olcott, [Dr.] Austin, certificate signed by, 64
Olmsted, Oliver, petition signed by, 165
Orcut, Marvin, mentioned, 188, 192
Orcut, Marvin, petition signed by, 189
Order, confirming formation of Flank Co. in 7th Regt., 92
Order, for choice of officers, 191, 192
Order, for forming Flank Co. in Abington, 242

Orderly books, act concerning method of preparing, 241
Orderly books, form of, 244, 245
Orderly books, instructions concerning, 238
Ordnance, available for Haddam Artillery Co., 149
Ordnance, distribution of, 32, 33, 150
Ordnance, furnished Griswold Artillery Co., 225
Ordnance, requested for Haddam militia co., 143, 144
Osborn, Ens. [Ambrose], letter to, 126
Osborn, Ens. Ambrose, letter signed by, 118
Osgood, Israel, mentioned, 177
Osgood, Leicester, mentioned, 187
Osgood, Scarborough, chosen Lieut., 272
Osgood, Lieut. Scarborough, mentioned, 260
Osgood, Sergt. Scarborough, mentioned, 177
Ovit, Amos C., mentioned, 184
Oxford, 117, 118, 119, 126, 129, 140, 161, 275
Oxford, letters dated at, 117, 119
Oxford, location of Rifle Cos. in, 117, 118, 119
Oxford, militia cos., feud between, 117, 118, 119
Oxford, Rifle Co., 117, 118, 119, 126, 129, 150
Oxford, Rifle Co., approved, 129, 130

Paddock, Sergt. Elijah, representation signed by, 56
Paddock, Joseph, petition signed by, 165
Paddock, William, petition signed by, 165
Palmer, Levi, petition signed by, 165
Palmer, Brig. Gen. Stephen F., letters by, 42, 66, 123
Palmer, Brig. Gen. Stephen F., letters to, 16, 31, 52, 79, 111
Palmer, Brig. Gen. Stephen F., mentioned, 14, 17, 52, 179
Pardee, Orrin, mentioned, 185
Pardy, James R., representation signed by, 68
Parker, Brig. Gen. Daniel, Adjt. and Inspector Gen., U.S.A., letters by, 23, 25
[Parker, Brig. Gen. Daniel], Adjt. and Inspector Gen., U.S.A., mentioned, 54
Parker, Lieut. Thomas C., requests discharge, 155
Parm[e]le, Corp. Lorin, petition signed by, 125
Parmele, Phinehas, petition signed by, 20
[Parmelee, Col. Jeremiah], mentioned, 221
Parmelee, Capt. Linus, Jr., letter by, 143
Parmelee, Capt. Linus, Jr., letter to, 147
Parmelee, Capt. [Linus, Jr.], mentioned, 142, 149, 150
Parmeley, Noah, petition signed by, 19
Parsons, Joseph, petition signed by, 19
Patchin, Alba, association signed by, 133
Patterson, Charles, petition signed by, 125
Pearl, Dyer, mentioned, 181, 185
Pearl, Dyer, subscription signed by, 182
Pearl, Orrin, mentioned, 183
Pearl, Owen, copy of muster roll signed by, 186
Pearl, Owen, mentioned, 181, 182, 185
Pearson, John, mentioned, 187
Pease, Ens. Theodore, status as Adjt. clarified, 72, 73
Pease, Ens. Theodore, Adjt., letter to, 114
Pease, Ens. Theodore, Adjt., mentioned, 57, 63, 70
Pease, Ens. Theodore, Adjt., requests discharge, 91
Peck, Ezekiel Y., petition signed by, 165
Peck, Seth, mentioned, 182, 184
Peck, Seth, subscription signed by, 183
Pelton, Francis S., petition signed by, 284
Pelton, Oliver, petition signed by, 284
Pelton, Sanford, petition signed by, 284

Pelton, W[illia]m W., petition signed by, 284
Penfield, Abel, mentioned, 181, 183, 187
Penfield, Chester, mentioned, 187
Penfield, Daniel, petition signed by, 284
Penfield, John, mentioned, 181, 183, 187
Penfield, Jonathan, mentioned, 7
Penfield, Jonathan, Jr., petition signed by, 285
Penfield, Nath[anie]l, mentioned 187
Penfield, Nathaniel, Jr., mentioned, 182, 184
Penfield, Oliver, mentioned, 7
Penfield, Phinehas, Jr., mentioned, 181, 183, 187
Penfield, Sylvester, mentioned, 6
Penfield, Sylvester, petition signed by, 284
Perkins, [Mr.], mentioned, 207
Perkins, Col. George L., mentioned, 174
Perkins, H. W[illiam?], letter to, 251
Perkins, William, letter by, 236
Petersburg, Va., deaf and dumb school at, 80
Petition, concerning Barkhamsted militia co., 83
Petition, for transfer of Ashford Grenadier Co. to 23d Regt., 188
Petition, from Chatham, to form infantry co., 238
Petition, from Colebrook, granted, 84
Petition, from Durham, 17
Petition, from Griswold, 100
Petition, from Millington, to form militia co., 124
Petition, from Roxbury, to reinstate militia co., 124
Petition, from Simsbury, to retain militia co., 107
Petition, from Southbury, concerning militia co., 140
Pettibone, Jona [than], Jr., petition signed by, 108
Pettibone, Jona [than], Jr., remonstrance signed by, 106
Pettibone, Joseph, petition signed by, 108
Pettibone, Sereno, remonstrance signed by, 106
Pettipaug, 1, 18, 37, 51, 161, 275
Phelps, Austin, remonstrance signed by, 106
Phelps, Capt. Austin, recommended for discharge, 108
Phelps, Capt. Daniel, Jr., letter by, 304
Phelps, Capt. Daniel, Jr., letter to, 305
Phelps, Elisha, petition signed by, 108
Phelps, Major E[paphras] L., mentioned, 3
Phelps, Jannah B., mentioned, 105
Phelps, Jeffrey O., petition signed by, 108
Phelps, Niles, petition signed by, 165
Phelps, Noah, petition signed by, 108
Phelps, Noah A., remonstrance signed by, 107
Phelps, Oliver C., remonstrance signed by, 106
Philadelphia, [Pa.], 217, 247
[Pierpont, Ens. Andrew], mentioned, 221
[Pierpont, Ens. Andrew], requests discharge, 216
Pierson, William S., petition signed by, 19
Pierson, Dr. William S., certification by, 93
Pike, Abishai, mentioned, 177
Pine, David, residence mentioned, 277
Pinneo, Rev. Bezaleel, letter by, 201
Pinneo, [Rev. Bezaleel], mentioned, 198
Pinneo, Mrs. Bezaleel, death of, 201
Pinney, Joab, petition signed by, 108
Plainfield, 2, 41, 48, 161, 248, 261, 262, 274, 277, 278
Plainfield, letters dated at, 196, 208
Plant, Ebenezer, mentioned, 184
Platts, Joseph, letter by, 36
Platts, Joseph, letter to, 43
Plymouth, 21, 191, 263, 268, 269, 278
Plymouth, militia co., 268, 269
Plymouth, militia co., alteration in, 258, 259
Poll-tax, levied on Negroes in Norwich, 229

Poll-tax, remission of, not in Governor's power, 231
Polly, Isaac, petition signed by, 284
Pomfret, 33, 44, 51, 113, 128, 177, 178, 242, 260, 274
Pomfret, Flank Co., approved, 241
Pomfret, formation of Flank Co., endorsed, 231
Pomfret, letters dated at, 30, 85, 230, 291
Pomfret, Light Infantry Co., copy of subscription for, 177
Pomfret, militia co., to be fined for non-performance of duty, 86, 87
Pomfret, Rifle Co., 134, 150
Pomfret, subscription dated at, 177
Ponrus [?], Lanson, petition signed by, 125
Poquonock, 55
Porter, John, mentioned, 184
Post, Ralph, mentioned, 6
Potter, Lieut. Caleb, mentioned, 132
Potter, Lieut. Caleb, restored to rank, 135
Potter, Charles F., certified unfit for military duty, 300
Potter, Charles F., letter by, requesting discharge, 303
Potter, General, mentioned, 269
Pratt, David, mentioned, 177
Pratt, Eli, mentioned, 182, 185
Pratt, Eli, subscription signed by, 183
Prat[t], Simeon, petition signed by, 19
Presidential election, to be held, 154
Preston, Daniel, petition signed by, 101
Preston, Reuben, mentioned, 99, 188, 192
Preston, Reuben, petitions signed by, 38, 189
Preston, 101
Price, David, residence mentioned, 285
Priest, Hiram, mentioned, 181, 185
Priest, Hiram, subscription signed by, 181
Prince, James, association signed by, 133
Prince, James, letter by, 281
Prince, James, letter to, 293
Prince, James, mentioned, 282, 292, 293
Prince, Capt. James, letter by, concerning remonstrance against Weston Rifle Co., 159
Prince, Capt. James, mentioned, 146, 150, 157
Pritchard, Abram, mentioned, 184
Protest, from Wilton, concerning formation of militia companies, 138

Quaker Farm, 117, 118, 119
Quaker Farm, Rifle Co., 141
Quaker Farm, Rifle Co., organization of permitted, 146
Quartermaster General, appointment of, 208
Quartermaster General, recommendation for, 200, 201
Quy, Eber, letter by, 229
Quy, Eber, mentioned, 231

[Radcliff, Jacob], Mayor of New York, letter to, 15
[Radcliff, Mrs. Jacob [Juliana Smith]], mentioned, 15, 16
Rand, Richard, letter by, requesting discharge, 97
Rand, Richard, mentioned, 113
Rand, Richard, requests discharge, 96
Randall, Amos, petition signed by, 166
Randall, Dudley, petition signed by, 166
Randall, Stephen, mentioned, 178
Rank, in militia, confirmed, 140
Ransom, [Bliss], petition signed by, 165
Ransom, Lyman C., petition signed by, 166
Ransom, Nathaniel P., petition signed by, 165
Ransom, William, petition signed by, 165
Rathbun, Thomas, Jr., petition signed by, 166
Recommendation, for Quartermaster General, 200, 201
Recommendation, of Brig. Gen. Moses Tryon, Jr., 224
Records, of militia companies, instructions concerning, 238
Records, of militia companies, methods of keeping, 233, 234
Recruiting, for Horse Artillery, 280

Recruiting, permission for requested, 296
Recruits, authorized for Flank Co., 10th Regt., 73
Redding, 21, 133
Redding, certificates dated at, 172, 173
Reduction, of militia companies, 69
Reed, Luke, petition signed by, 108
Reed, Samuel, mentioned, 185
Regulations, governing discharges, 92, 93
Reinstatement, of Roxbury militia co., desired, 124, 125
Relocation, of Griswold militia co., desired, 100
Relocation, of militia companies, 99
Remission, of fines, 189
Remonstrance, from Simsbury, against location of militia co., 105
Remonstrance, from Wilton, against formation of Weston Rifle Co., 156
Reorganization, of militia, explained, 82
Report, on militia returns, 179
Representation, concerning reassignment of 4th Co., 27th Regt., 67
Representation, from Middletown, 56
Request, for appointment as Cashier, 217
Request, for enlistment orders, 195
Request, for instructions, 234
Request, for ordnance, 144
Request, to form Rifle Co. in Southington, 161, 162
Resignations, 157
Resolution, concerning Flank Cos. in Infantry, 155
Resolve, concerning militia officers, 197
Retirements, 24
Return, of officers for Weston Rifle Co., 146
Return, of men performing military duty, 54
Return, of militia co. in New Salem, 239
Returns, mentioned, 205
Returns, of militia companies, 225, 226
Returns, report on, 179
Returns, to be completed, 175
Returns, to be sent United States, 211
Richards, Abijah, mentioned, 188, 192
Richards, Abijah, petition signed by, 189
Richards, Josiah, mentioned, 188, 192
Richards, Josiah, petition signed by, 189
Richardson, Capt. Daniel, letter to, 99
Richardson, Capt. Daniel, mentioned, 83, 84
Richmond, Nathan, mentioned, 177
Richmond, Va., letter dated at, 80
Rickard, Alfred, mentioned, 178
Ricor, Jesse, mentioned, 181, 184
Ricor, John, mentioned, 181, 183, 187
Ricor, Samuel, mentioned, 181, 184
Ridgebury, 22
Ridgebury, certificate dated at, 172
Ridgefield, 21
Ridgefield, certificate dated at, 172
Rifle Co., application granted, 136
Rifle Co., in Southington, desired, 161, 162
Rifle Co., in Weston, 132, 133
Rifle Co., in Weston, approved, 145
Rifle Co., in Weston, status of, 148
Rifle Co., not to be formed in Lisbon, 158
Rifle Co., to be formed in Newtown, 76, 77
Rifle companies, formation of, 150, 151
Rifles, 47, 109, 134, 251
Rifles, purchase of, 255
Rifles, specifications for, 263, 269, 270
Rifles, with interchangeable parts, 86
Riggs, Major Gideon, mentioned, 117
Ripton, 267, 288
Robbins, [Mr.] P. C., letter signed by, 45
Roberts, Asher, petition signed by, 165
Roberts, Harry, mentioned, 6
Roberts, Capt. Jacob, representation signed by, 56

Robert[s], W[illia]m, association signed by, 133
Robertson, Levi, association signed by, 133
Robinson, Charles, petition signed by, 19
Robinson, Harvey, petition signed by, 20
Robinson, Otis, mentioned, 187
Robinson, Sam[ue]l, petition signed by, 19
Rocky Hill, 36
Rogers, Charles H., mentioned, 177
Rogers, Gurdon, petition signed by, 165
Rogers, Gurdon, Jr., petition signed by, 165
Root, Henry, mentioned, 187
Root, James, mentioned, 185
Rose, Munson, representation signed by, 69
Ross, Ja[me]s, mentioned, 209
Roxbury, 21, 124, 131, 137, 147, 259
Roxbury, letter dated at, 131
Roxbury, Light Infantry Co., protests annexation to Woodbury Co., 131
Roxbury, Light Infantry Co., representation from, 137
Roxbury, Light Infantry Co., suggested as Rifle Co., 137
Roxbury, militia co., protests annexation to Woodbury or Southbury cos., 124, 125
Roxbury, petition dated at, 124
Roxbury, petition from, to reinstate militia co., 124
Rugg, Micah, mentioned, 182
Rugg, Micah, subscription signed by, 183
Rugg, Michael, mentioned, 185
Rugg, Solomon, mentioned, 182, 185
Rugg, Solomon, subscription signed by, 183
Rutland, Vt., 23

Sage, Alexander, mentioned, 6
St. John, Capt. Hezekiah, certificate by, 171
St. John, Capt. Silas, letter by, requesting discharge, 303
St. Louis, Mo., 23
Salisbury, 21
Salter, Brig. Gen. [John], mentioned, 111, 149, 193, 196, 239, 297
Sammons, Daniel, association signed by, 133
Sand Lake, N.Y., 80
Sanford, Capt. Oliver C., letter signed by, 139
Sanford, Capt. [Oliver C.], mentioned, 159
Sanford, Capt. Oliver C., remonstrance signed by, 185
Savage, Caleb, mentioned, 185
Savage, Corp. Ira, mentioned, 6
Saxton, Sergt. Walter, mentioned, 6
Saybrook, 17, 18, 24, 36, 71, 110, 150, 249, 299
Saybrook, letter addressed to, 96
Saybrook, letters dated at, 36, 141, 249
Scarborough, Col. Jared, Quartermaster Gen., death of, 199, 200
Scarborough, Col. Jared, Quartermaster Gen., letters to, 32, 149
Scarborough, Col. [Jared], Quartermaster Gen., mentioned, 60, 103, 144, 147, 202, 203, 206, 211, 214, 218, 233
Scofell, Nathan, petition signed by, 166
Scofield, Jos[ia]h, mentioned, 300, 301, 302
Scott, Nehemiah, petition signed by, 141
Scott, Sir Walter, ed., *Swift's Works*, 244
Scovil, Sylvester, letter signed by, 300
Scranton, Ab[raha]m, petition signed by, 19
Scranton, Benjamin, representation signed by, 68
Scranton, Frederick W., representation signed by, 68
Scranton, Henry, representation signed by, 68
Scranton, Hubbard, representation signed by, 68
Scranton, Ichobod, petition signed by, 20
Scranton, Ichobod L., representation signed by, 68

Scranton, Ens. Jonathan, representation signed by, 68
Scranton, Jos[eph], representation signed by, 68
Scranton, Russell, petition signed by, 19
Scranton, Theophilus, representation signed by, 68
Scranton, Theophilus, Jr., representation signed by, 68
Scranton, Timothy, petition signed by, 19
Seeley, Gregory, association signed by, 123
Selden, Capt. Samuel C., letter by, 195
Selden, Capt. Samuel C., letter to, 206
Selden, Major Samuel C., letters by, 219, 234
Selden, Major Samuel C., letters to, 227, 246
Selden, Major [Samuel C.], mentioned, 228, 245, 246, 248, 279
Seward, Seth, petition signed by, 19
Seymour, Capt. Holly, certificate by, 173
Seymour, Moses D., mentioned, 181, 184, 187
Sharon, 21, 24, 35, 36, 49, 59, 80, 81, 95, 176, 216
Sharon, document addressed to, 56
Sharon, general orders dated at, 92
Sharon, letters addressed to, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 23, 26, 27, 30, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 49, 57, 58, 59, 63, 64, 65, 66, 69, 70, 71, 74, 75, 77, 80, 85, 88, 90, 91, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 108, 109, 111, 116, 117, 119, 120, 121, 123, 131, 138, 141, 142, 143, 146, 158, 189, 190, 191, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 217, 218, 219, 225, 226, 230, 232, 233, 234, 236, 239, 243, 247, 248, 252, 255, 256, 257, 258, 260, 261, 266, 267, 268, 269, 271, 272, 273, 285, 286, 288, 289, 291, 296, 297, 303, 304, 305, 306, 309, 310
Sharon, letters dated at, 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 22, 29, 32, 33, 34, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 60, 61, 62, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 81, 84, 89, 99, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 134, 135, 136, 137, 143, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 193, 194, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 211, 212, 213, 215, 221, 224, 227, 228, 231, 238, 241, 243, 244, 245, 246, 251, 254, 262, 263, 264, 265, 272, 275, 276, 279, 280, 286, 289, 290, 292, 293, 294, 299, 301, 303, 305, 310, 311
Sharon, note dated at, 205
Sharon, petitions addressed to, 83, 140
Sharon, writ dated at, 295
Sharp[e], George, chosen Captain, 272
Sharp[e], Capt. George, mentioned, 260
Sharpe, Ens. George, mentioned, 177, 242
Sharpe, Ens. George, subscription signed by, 177
Sharpe, Corp. Robert Davis, mentioned, 177
Shaw, Dr. S., mentioned, 23, 25
Shelley, Edmund, petition signed by, 19
Shelley, Julius, representation signed by, 68
Shepard, Lieut. Col. Cornelius, mentioned, 24
Shepard, Sergt. Isaac, mentioned, 184
Shepard, Jonathan, petition signed by, 285
Shepard, Corp. Lagrand, petition signed by, 125
Sherman, Nathan G., petition signed by, 125
Sherman, William, mentioned, 177
Sherman, 21
Sherwood, Daniel B., association signed by, 133
Sherwood, Daniel B., mentioned, 282
Sherwood, Henry, mentioned, 80
Sherwood, Isaac, association signed by, 133
Sherwood, Isaac, mentioned, 282
Shrewsbury, Mass., 86
Shumway, Lieut. [Alpheus], mentioned, 5
Silliman, Abijah, association signed by, 133
Silliman, Daniel, association signed by, 133
Silliman, Daniel, mentioned, 282

Silliman, Isaac, association signed by, 133
Silliman, Nathaniel, association signed by, 133
Silliman, Nathaniel, mentioned, 282
Silliman, Ens. Nathaniel, mentioned, 146, 157
Simsbury, 20, 69, 78, 105, 107, 108, 175
Simsbury, certificate dated at, 167
Simsbury, letters dated at, 39, 175
Simsbury, militia co., location of, 107
Simsbury, petition dated at, 107
Simsbury, petition from, 107
Simsbury, remonstrance from, 105
Slater, Benj[amin], mentioned, 186
Sloper, Daniel, mentioned, 184
Smith, [Mr.], mentioned, 135
Smith, Barack, mentioned, 188, 192
Smith, Barack, petition by, requesting transfer of Grenadier Co., 188
Smith, Bara[c]k, petition signed by, 189
Smith, Daniel H., representation signed by, 69
Smith, Rev. David, letter by, concerning Chauncey Stevens, 103
Smith, Rev. David, letter to, 136
Smith, Elihu, mentioned, 181
Smith, Elihu, subscription signed by, 180
Smith, Halsey, petition signed by, 284
Smith, Lieut. Horatio, letter by, requesting discharge, 305
Smith, James, representation signed by, 68
Smith, James, Jr., mentioned, 181
Smith, James, Jr., subscription signed by, 180
Smith, Jess, petition signed by, 19
Smith, John Cotton, association addressed to, 132
Smith, John Cotton, certificate to, 117
Smith, John Cotton, copy of document by, 241
Smith, John Cotton, copy of letter to, 213
Smith, John Cotton, general orders by, 92
Smith, John Cotton, letters by, 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 22, 29, 32, 33, 34, 41, 43, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 60, 61, 62, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 81, 84, 89, 92, 93, 99, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 134, 135, 136, 137, 139, 143, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 193, 194, 202, 203, 204, 206, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 221, 224, 227, 228, 231, 238, 241, 243, 244, 245, 246, 248, 251, 254, 262, 263, 264, 265, 272, 275, 276, 279, 280, 289, 290, 292, 293, 294, 299, 301, 305, 310, 311
Smith, John Cotton, letters to, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 49, 57, 58, 59, 63, 64, 65, 66, 69, 70, 71, 74, 75, 77, 80, 85, 88, 90, 91, 94, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 108, 109, 111, 116, 117, 119, 120, 121, 123, 131, 132, 138, 141, 142, 143, 146, 149, 155, 158, 159, 160, 163, 167, 168, 170, 173, 174, 175, 176, 178, 179, 189, 190, 191, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 215, 217, 218, 219, 222, 225, 226, 229, 230, 232, 233, 234, 236, 239, 243, 247, 249, 250, 252, 255, 256, 257, 258, 260, 261, 266, 267, 268, 269, 271, 273, 281, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 291, 296, 297, 299, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 309, 310
Smith, John Cotton, notes by, 191, 205
Smith, John Cotton, petitions to, 83, 100, 107, 124, 140, 163, 188
Smith, John Cotton, writ issued by, 295
[Smith, John Cotton], Captain General, mentioned, 89, 155, 162, 180, 181, 183
[Smith, John Cotton], Governor, mentioned, 23, 157, 178
Smith, Mrs. [John Cotton, [Margaret Evertson]], mentioned, 93, 180, 206, 217, 248, 288
Smith, Joseph, Jr., petition signed by, 19
Smith, Leicester, mentioned, 187
Smith, Levi, mentioned, 185
Smith, Col. Linus, letter by, 121
Smith, Cornet Nathan C., mentioned, 5

Smith, Judge [Nathaniel], mentioned, 289
Smith, Phinehas, letter by, 131
Smith, Phinehas, letter to, 137
Smith, Reuben, petition signed by, 284
Smith, Richard M., mentioned, 6
Smith, Riley, mentioned, 185
Smith, Samuel, representation signed by, 68
Smith, Capt. Samuel, certificate by, 172
Smith, Seth K., mentioned, 185
Smith, Simon, mentioned, 6
Smith, Lieut. Theodore, letter signed by, 118
Smith, Lieut. [Theodore], letter to, 126
Smith, Brig. Gen. [Thomas A.], letter to, 23
Smith, Col. [William M.], mentioned, 248
Snow, Hezekiah, mentioned, 178
Somers, letter dated at, 63
South Farms, 259, 278
Southbury, 21, 124, 140
Southbury, militia co., desires to remain in 12th Regt., 140, 141
Southbury, petition dated at, 140
Southbury, petition from, concerning militia co., 140
Southbury, two companies in, to be consolidated, 147
Southington, 20, 162, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 186
Southington, Flank Co., 55
Southington, letters dated at, 161, 310
Southington, militia co., muster roll, 184
Southington, Rifle Co., desired, 161, 162
Southington, Rifle Co., subscriptions for, 180, 181, 182, 183
Southington, subscriptions for Rifle Co., 180, 181, 182, 183
Southmayd, Daniel, petition signed by, 165
Southmayd, Freeman, petition signed by, 165
Southmayd, Joseph, petition signed by, 167
Southmayd, Ens. Ansel, cashiered, 171
Southmayd, Ens. Ansel, courtmartial of, 170, 171
Spalding, Deca, mentioned, 188, 192
Spalding, Deca, petition signed by, 189
Specifications, for Rifles, 263, 269, 270
Spencer, Charles R., petition signed by, 101
Spencer, Edwin, petition signed by, 166
Spencer, Isaac, petition signed by, 165
Spencer, Jared, petition signed by, 166
Spencer, John, representation signed by, 68
Spencer, Sergt. Nehemiah, mentioned, 101
Spencer, Sergt. Nehemiah, petition signed by, 100, 101
Spencer, Reynolds, petition signed by, 101
Spencer, Richard G., petition signed by, 166
Spencer, Ens. [William], mentioned, 235
Squire, William, association signed by, 133
Squire, William, mentioned, 282
Staff officers, discharge of, 221
Stamford, 21, 36
Stanley, Amos, mentioned, 187
Stanley, Charles A., letter by, 29
Stanley, Charles A., letter to, 29
Stanley, Jesse, mentioned, 187
Stanley, Wakeman N., mentioned, 181, 184
Staples, Moses H., association signed by, 133
Staples, Moses H., mentioned, 282
Staples, Capt. Sophos, letters by, 222, 252, 289
Staples, Capt. Sophos, letters to, 227, 256, 290
Statement, of men returned, 54
Stedman, Lory, mentioned, 181, 186
Stedman, Lowrey, subscription signed by, 182
Stedman, Sidney, mentioned, 181, 184
Steel, Avery, mentioned, 187
Steel, Josiah, Jr., mentioned, 187
Steel, Roswell, mentioned, 187
Steel, Solomon, mentioned, 187

Stephens, Lieut. Jeremiah, petition signed by, 19
Sterling, Maj. Gen. Elisha, letter by, 208
Sterling, Maj. Gen. [Elisha], mentioned, 203, 207, 233, 238
Sterling, 41
Stevens, Chauncey, certified for discharge, 93
Stevens, Chauncey, certified unfit for military duty, 103
Stevens, [Chauncey], mentioned, 136
Stewart, Daniel, 2d, petition signed by, 284
Stewart, David, 3d, petition signed by, 284
Stocking, Ansel, mentioned, 182, 184
Stocking, Joel, mentioned, 6
Stocking, Loring, petition signed by, 284
Stocking, Sidney, petition signed by, 284
Stocking, William, mentioned, 182, 184
Stoddard, Hiram, mentioned, 187
Stone, Selden, petition signed by, 19
Stonington, 24, 71
Storrs, Captain, mentioned, 47
Storrs, Grosvenor, mentioned, 178
Storrs, Lieut. Col. Lemuel G., letter by, 286
Storrs, Lieut. Col. Lemuel G., mentioned, 197, 204
Storrs, William, mentioned, 178
Stowell, Eph[rai]m C., mentioned, 177
Stowell, Lester, mentioned, 178
Stratford, 21, 266, 267
Street, W[illia]m, Jr., mentioned, 187
Strickland, Noah, petition signed by, 285
Strong, Captain, mentioned, 140
Strong, Corp. Ackey, mentioned, 6
Strong, Ashahel, petition signed by, 20
Strong, Henry, mentioned, 6
Strong, John, mentioned, 7
Strong, Thomas, petition signed by, 19
Studley, Jesse, mentioned, 181, 185
Studley, Jesse, subscription signed by, 182
Sturtavant, Peras, petition signed by, 19
Subscription, to form Pomfret Light Infantry Co., copy of, 177
Subscriptions, for Southington Rifle Co., 180, 181, 182, 183
Suffield, 20
Summers, Lieut. Henry, letter by, requesting discharge, 98
Summers, Lieut. Henry, letter to, 114
Sumner, Samuel, Jr., mentioned, 188, 192
Sumner, Samuel, Jr., petition signed by, 189
Sutton, Mass., 86
Swan, Asa, petition signed by, 166
Swan, [Mr.] C., mentioned, 88
Swan, Diodate L., petition signed by, 166
Swan, Hurlbert, petition signed by, 166
Swan, Jabez, petition signed by, 166
Swan, Jabez, Jr., petition signed by, 167
Swan, Rufus W., petition signed by, 166
Swett, Jehiel, petition signed by, 19
Swords, described, 109

Talcott, Capt. Joseph, Jr., letter by, 131
Talcott, Capt. Joseph, Jr., letter to, 135
Talcott, Capt. [Joseph, Jr.], mentioned, 48
Taylor, Elihu, association signed by, 133
Taylor, Joshua, mentioned, 6
Taylor, Judith L., mentioned, 6
Tenney, John, Jr., association signed by, 133
Theft, complaint concerning, 237
Thomas, Morgan, petition signed by, 125
Thompson, 237, 248, 251, 260, 273, 277
Thompson, complaint dated at, 237
Thomson, Charles, petition signed by, 19
Thorp, Caleb, mentioned, 185
Thorp, Jesse, mentioned, 186

Thorp, Reuben, Jr., mentioned, 185
Thrall, Capt. Walter, mentioned, 45
Tibbals, John, petition signed by, 19
Tibbals, Seth, petition signed by, 19
Tillinghast, Lieut. John, requests discharge, 132
Tisdale, Ens. Riley, mentioned, 184
Todd, Jonathan, representation signed by, 68
Todd, W[illia]m, mentioned, 72
Tolland County, 24
Tomlinson, David, petition signed by, 141
Tomlinson, Lieut. John L., letter by, 120
Tomlinson, Lieut. John. L., letter to, 143
Tompkins, [Daniel D.], Governor, mentioned, 252
Torringford, letter dated at, 296
Torrington, 21
Torrington, letters dated at, 105, 258, 268
Transfer, of Ashford Grenadier Co., 192
Treadwell, Bradley, association signed by, 133
Treadwell, Bradley, mentioned, 282
Trowbridge, Stephen, mentioned, 177
Trowbridge, Capt. William, mentioned, 5
Trumbull, Col. Joseph, Aide-de-Camp, letter to, 43
Trumbull, Col. Joseph, Aide-de-Camp, letters by, 39, 200
Trumbull, Col. Joseph, Aide-de-Camp, mentioned, 44
Trumbull, 21, 133, 266, 267, 275, 279, 293
Trumbull, Flank Co., 275, 285, 287, 288
Trumbull, Flank Co., disposition of, 285
Trumbull, letter addressed to, 159
Tryon, Brig. Gen. Moses, Jr., letter by, 217
Tryon, Brig. Gen. Moses, Jr., letters to, 39, 40, 224
Tryon, Brig. Gen. Moses, Jr., mentioned, 39, 57
Tryon, Seth, petition signed by, 284
Tucker, Pascal, mentioned, 178
Tuller, Reuben, remonstrance signed by, 106
Turkey Hills, 20, 21
Turney, John, Jr., mentioned, 282
Turney, Roswell, mentioned, 282
Tuttle, Aroma, mentioned, 186
Tuttle, Joseph, petition signed by, 19
Twichell, Capt. Gilbert, letter by, 117
Twichell, Capt. Gilbert, letter to, 126
Twichell, Capt. Gilbert, petition signed by, 141
Tyler, Alcemon, mentioned, 178
Tyler, Jared, mentioned, 185
Tyler, Reuben, mentioned, 181, 185
Tyler, Reuben, subscription signed by, 182
Tyrrel, James, association signed by, 133

Uniforms, 52, 53, 61, 111, 112, 129, 251
Uniforms, alteration in, 51, 66
Uniforms, alterations considered, 6, 8, 10, 11
Uniforms, alterations opposed, 110
Uniforms, described, 90, 91, 110
Uniforms, for Artillery, approved, 115
Uniforms, for Artillery officers, 123
Uniforms, for Cavalry, 66
Uniforms, for Cavalry officers, 123
Uniforms, for Flank Cos., 127, 128, 130
Uniforms, for Haddam Flank Co., 302
Uniforms, for Light Infantry, approved, 290
Uniforms, for Light Infantry, suggested, 290
Uniforms, for Millington Flank Co., described, 297
Uniforms, for New Haven Flank Co., approved, 227
Uniforms, for New Haven Light Infantry Co., 252, 253
Uniforms, for New Haven Light Infantry Co., approved, 254
Uniforms, for New Haven Light Infantry Co., described, 222
Uniforms, for militia, 255

Uniforms, for Rifle Corps, 264, 270, 275
Uniforms, for Rifle Corps, suggested, 247
Uniforms, for 3d Flank Co., 11th Regt., approved, 273
Uniforms, for Wethersfield Flank Co., described, 306, 307
Uniforms, questions concerning, 104
Uniforms, suggestions concerning, 79
United States, claim of Conn. against for pay of troops, 218, 219
United States, standard for measuring rifles, 269
United States, to distribute arms to the states, 205
United States, to pay state militias, 210, 215
United States, to supply arms to the states, 10
United States Congress, writ of election to, 295
United States War Department, 217
Upson, Asahel, mentioned, 185
Upson, Levi, subscription signed by, 180
Upson, Corp. Levi, mentioned, 184
Upson, Salmon, mentioned, 181, 185
Upson, Salmon, subscription signed by, 180
Upson, Sheldon, mentioned, 181, 184, 187

Vermont, 1, 15, 25, 49, 60
Vinn, [Mr.], *Abridgement,* 243, 244
Voluntown, 135

Wadsworth, James, petition signed by, 19
Wadsworth, Gen. James, letter to, 81
Wadsworth, Wadsworth, petition signed by, 19
Wadsworth, Capt. [William], mentioned, 170
Wakeley, Iram, mentioned, 185
Wakeman, Willis, association signed by, 133
Walker, Michael P., letter by, requesting remission of fines, 170
Walkly, Ens. Gurdon, mentioned, 92
Walkly, Lieut. Stephen, mentioned, 184
Wallingford, 7, 12, 17, 18, 67
Wantwood's Cove, 285
Ward, Col. [James] Commissary Gen., appointed acting Quartermaster Gen., 209
Ward, Col. [James], Commissary Gen., mentioned, 200
Warden, Zard, mentioned, 185
Warner, Corp. Curtis, petition signed by, 125
Warner, Dyer, petition signed by, 166
Warner, Ephraim, petition signed by, 166
Warner, Ephraim, Jr., petition signed by, 166
Warner, Ezack, petition signed by, 125
Warner, Orrin, petition signed by, 284
Warner, Lieut. [Samuel S.], mentioned, 235
Warner, Truman, petition signed by, 125
Warrant, for arrest of Charles Lewis, 237
Warren, 21
Washington, 21, 88
Washington, certificate dated at, 117
Washington, letter dated at, 191
Washington, [D.C.], 215, 219, 270
Washington, [D.C.], letter dated at, 210
Watertown, 21
Watrous, Andrew, petition signed by, 166
Watrous, Dr. John R., certificate by, 122
Watrous, Lieut. Lazarus, letter by, requesting discharge, 226
Waugh, Capt. Samuel, certificate signed by, 123
Waugh, Capt. [Samuel], mentioned, 121
Weeks, Amos, mentioned, 178
Welch, Almond, mentioned, 178
Welch, George, mentioned, 6
Weld, Eber, mentioned, 177
Wells, Captain, mentioned, 10, 48
Wells, Horace, mentioned, 187
[West, Col. Samuel, Jr.], mentioned, 193
West Hartford, 57
Westbrook, 18, 37
Weston, 21, 133, 138, 146, 292
Weston, association dated at, 132
Weston, association for Rifle Co., 132, 145, 148

Weston, certificate dated at, 171
Weston, Flank Co., approved, 292, 293, 294
Weston, Flank Co., conditions for forming, 292, 293, 294
Weston, letter addressed to, 145
Weston, letters dated at, 98, 159, 281
Weston, request dated at, 282
Weston, Rifle Co., 132, 133
Weston, Rifle Co., application to be formed as Flank Co., 281, 282
Weston, Rifle Co., disbanded, 292
Weston, Rifle Co., orders for, suspended, 150
Weston, Rifle Co., remonstrance against formation of, 156, 157
Weston, Rifle Co., remonstrance against, questioned, 159, 160
Weston, Rifle Co., return of officers, 146
Wetherill, Calvin, petition signed by, 284
Wetherill, Marcius, petition signed by, 284
Wethersfield, 20, 36, 116
Wethersfield, Flank Co., uniform described, 306, 307
Wethersfield, letters dated at, 46, 116, 306
Wheaton, Jeremiah, horse of, stolen by Charles Lewis, 237
Whedon, Frederick L., representation signed by, 68
Wheeler, Anson, association signed by, 133
Wheeler, Anson, mentioned, 282
Wheeler, Burr S., association signed by, 133
Wheeler, Moses, petition signed by, 141
Wheeler, Obadiah, petition signed by, 141
Whipple, Hezekiah C., mentioned, 187
White, Charles, petition signed by, 19
White, Lieut. Col. [Daniel], mentioned, 1, 2, 24, 38, 113
Whitehead, Isaac, association signed by, 282
Whitehead, Lyman, association signed by, 133
Whitehead, Lyman, mentioned, 282
Whiting, Capt. Jacob, letter by, requesting discharge, 27
Whiting, Capt. Jacob, letter to, 41
Whiting, Capt. Jacob, mentioned, 41, 42, 58, 59
Whitney, Eli, letter by, 28
Whittelsey, Brig. Gen. Chauncey, letters by, 4, 8, 38, 47, 96, 109, 247, 255, 269
Whittelsey, Brig. Gen. Chauncey, letters to, 15, 50, 51, 61, 113, 128, 204, 261, 263
Whittelsey, Brig. Gen. [Chauncey], mentioned, 1, 15, 16, 17, 32, 97, 128, 174, 205, 279, 286, 287
Wickham, Russel, petition signed by, 165
Wightman, James, mentioned, 185
Wilcox, [Mr.] B. H., remonstrance signed by, 106
Wilcox, Capt. [Curtis], mentioned, 72
Wilcox, Capt. Curtis, representation signed by, 67
Wilcox, [Mr.] J. J., representation signed by, 68
Wilcox, Return, representation signed by, 69
Willard, Achilles, representation signed by, 68
Willard, Julius, representation signed by, 68
Willard, Julius, Jr., representation signed by, 68
Willcox, Abel, representation signed by, 68
Willcox, Joseph, representation signed by, 69
Willcox, Zenas, representation signed by, 68
Willey, Cyrus, petition signed by, 165
Willey, Jabez, petition by, 166
Willey, Joseph A., petition signed by, 166
Willey, Rufus, petition signed by, 166
Williams, Capt. Elkanah, recommended for discharge, 163
Williams, George, mentioned, 177
Williams, Isaac, petition signed by, 166
Williams, Capt. [Job], mentioned, 231
Williams, William, mentioned, 214
Williams, [Maj. Gen. William], mentioned, 90

Williams, Brig. Gen. [William, Jr], mentioned, 15, 25, 53, 81, 174, 220, 242
Williams, Lieut. Col. Zephaniah, letter by, 111
Williams, Lieut. Col. Zephaniah, letter to, 149
Willson, Marvin, mentioned, 178
Willson, Palmer, mentioned, 188, 192
Willson, Palmer, petition signed by, 189
Wilson, Lieut. Col. [Increase], mentioned, 225, 233
Wilson, Parker, mentioned, 178
Wilson, Samuel, 3d association signed by, 133
Wilson, 36
Wilton, 21
Wilton, letter dated at, 138
Wilton, remonstrance from, against formation of Weston Rifle Co., 156
Wilton, Rifle Co., proposed to be formed, 138
Winchell, Truman, mentioned, 187
Winchester, 21, 83
Winchester, letter dated at, 304
Windham County, 24, 237
Windsor, 20, 39, 55, 140
Winsted, 36, 83, 94, 99
Winsted, Mattswamp tier of lots, 84
Winton, Ens. Bradford, letter signed by, 139
Winton, Ens. Bradford, remonstrance signed by, 158
Wintonbury, 20, 55, 69, 78, 102, 105
Withey, Schuyler, mentioned, 177
Wolcott, Captain, mentioned, 48
Wolcott, [Oliver, Jr.], mentioned, 208, 225
Wood, Charles, petition signed by, 284
Woodbridge, Haynes, remonstrance signed by, 106
Woodbridge, 35
Woodbridge, letter dated at, 58
Woodbury, 21, 36, 59, 124, 131, 137, 147
Woodruff, Isaac, mentioned, 186
Woodruff, Lyman, mentioned, 186
Woodruff, Col. [Morris], mentioned, 258, 259
Woodruff, Samuel, letter by, 45
Woodruff, Capt. Samuel H., letter by, 161
Woodruff, Capt. Samuel H., letter to, 162
Woodruff, Capt. [Samuel H.], mentioned, 168
Woodruff, Sheldon, mentioned, 186
Woodstock, 111, 248, 273, 277
Woodstock, letters dated at, 111, 178, 260
Woodworth, Jasper, mentioned, 177
Writ, of election, 295

Yale College, 136, 251, 286
Yale College, convocation, 232
Yale corporation, meeting of, 286
Yeomans, Charles, mentioned, 178
[Young, Col. David], mentioned, 193
Young, Truman, petition signed by, 125
Youngs, David, petition signed by, 125
Youngs, John, mentioned, 185